

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONDEMNING TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS, FRANCE, ON NOVEMBER 13, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, at Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown, it's reported that the Marquis de Lafayette praised America saying, "Humanity has gained its suit; Liberty will nevermore be without an asylum." To this day his words ring true; America continues to uphold justice over tyranny and terror, and spreads the values of individual freedom across the globe. However, Lafayette's words also remind us that America has never been alone in that struggle.

Since the inception of our nation, the French people have been our compatriots in advancing the causes of justice and liberty. Last week, our oldest friend—an ally of peace and justice—was brutally and senselessly attacked by terrorists. As they have been there during our struggles, we must now be there for the French people. While we mourn together now, we must also unite and stand against global terrorism. The terrorists responsible must be brought to justice for these horrendous acts, ensuring both of our nations remain defenders of liberty for generations to come.

REFORMING CFPB INDIRECT AUTO FINANCING GUIDANCE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1737) to nullify certain guidance of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection and to provide requirements for guidance issued by the Bureau with respect to indirect auto lending.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I will vote against H.R. 1737, the Reforming CFPB Indirect Auto Financing Act. There are arguments to be made on both sides of this debate, and I am confident that the people I've worked with over the years in the auto industry are straight shooters. It is clear, however, that there are areas of serious abuse. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has found that there are instances where auto lenders, including some dealers, charge higher interest rates for people of color than they charge white car buyers with similar credit worthiness and financial standings. These higher interest rates come in the form of on-site and undisclosed interest rate markups. Several lawsuits have highlighted these matters.

I understand there are alternative arguments. Auto dealers should have the flexibility to give car buyers the best price possible, and interest rate negotiations can be a good way to save consumers money and to streamline the sales process. Further, CFPB's mandate to enforce the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and prevent discrimination in all lending was clear even before the 2013 guidance targeted by this legislation.

On balance, however, it is important not to undercut the CFPB as the administration is working hard to protect it. Perennial Republican budget proposals attempt to limit or eliminate funding for the CFPB, and earlier this fall the House Financial Services Committee passed legislation that would replace the CFPB with a politically appointed committee.

I'm hopeful that regardless of the outcome of this debate that there is a way to be able to work in a more cooperative basis on this issue. I'm interested in how we both meaningfully address real concerns while simultaneously protecting consumers and the delicate momentum of the newly-created CFPB under continuous attack.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU OF THE ROC (TAIWAN)

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my sincere congratulations for the leadership of President Ma Ying-jeou of the ROC (Taiwan) in pursuing peace and prosperity of the region. The leaders of the two sides met in Singapore on November 7, which was the first such summit since 1949.

President Ma elaborated on the "1992 Consensus" in his opening and closed door remarks, aiming to consolidate the common and critical foundation of the cross-strait relations. The State Department expressed "the United States welcomes the meeting between leaders on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and the historic improvement in cross-strait relations in recent years". Again, I would like to take this opportunity to applaud President Ma for his peaceful approach. Taiwan is indeed a beacon of democracy in East Asia.

RECOGNIZING FORMER CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLYMAN AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY JOHN A. BUSTERUD

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of John A. Busterud, World

War II veteran, former Assemblymen, and advocate for the environment.

Born on March 7, 1921, in Coos Bay, Oregon, Mr. Busterud went on to graduate from the University of Oregon. He then enlisted in the United States Army and served as an Infantry officer with the U.S. Army's distinguished 90th Infantry Division in the European Theater. During combat operations, his Battalion captured the vast German gold reserves and priceless art treasures deep in a salt mine in Merkers, Germany. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge for his service and would eventually retire from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel. After the war, Mr. Busterud graduated from Yale Law School and moved to San Francisco to start his legal career with the firm of Brobeck, Phleger and Harrison.

A dedicated public servant, Mr. Busterud served three terms as a California Assemblyman, from 1956 to 1962, representing the 22nd District in San Francisco. He rose to the ranks of Assembly Minority Leader.

After his tenure in the Assembly, Mr. Busterud returned to private practice, but continued to serve the public as President of the Commonwealth Club of California and President of the Committee to Save the Headlands. In this latter role, he was instrumental in the successful efforts to save the Marin Headlands and lay the groundwork for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

In 1971, President Nixon appointed Mr. Busterud to be the first Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environmental Quality. Subsequently, he served as a member and eventually Chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) under President Ford. During his tenure at CEQ, he represented the United States as a delegate to the groundbreaking Law of the Sea Convention in Geneva, Switzerland. After his service in Washington, Mr. Busterud returned to California to found Resolve, an environmental mediation foundation.

Mr. Busterud is now retired and, at age 94, he enjoys spending time with his beloved wife Anne and doting on his three children and seven grandchildren. He also authored "Below the Salt," a historical account of the 90th Division in WW II and the discovery of the German gold at Merkers.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting to honor and thank John A. Busterud for his long and dedicated service to Country, State, and the environment, and express deep appreciation for his impressive and distinguished accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING DR. MERLE HOROWITZ

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an educator who has devoted her life to ensuring our kids have the skills they need to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

enter the global workforce. Dr. Merle Horowitz will be honored this evening at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association annual dinner. Dr. Horowitz recently retired after ten years of service as superintendent of Marple Newtown School District. Dr. Horowitz's retirement comes after a 40 year career of educating students, and nearly three decades in Delaware County. She's a respected expert on cyberbullying and has spoken at length on the topic to audiences around the country. Tonight's honor is a fitting one and we are grateful for her service to the young people in our community.

HONORING UGA IX, "RUSS"

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Uga IX, the University of Georgia's beloved mascot who also goes by the name of Russ, for his dedicated service over the past three-plus seasons.

On October 22, 2015, the University of Georgia announced that Uga IX has decided to retire at the age of 11. Russ has worked a total of 38 games since being awarded a "battlefield promotion" and assuming the title of Uga IX during the 2012 season. Following the deaths of his half-brother, Uga VII, and his successor, Uga VIII, Russ also served as the interim mascot for 25 games from 2009–2012.

With a 51–22 record, Russ served admirably as Uga IX and is cherished by University of Georgia fans worldwide. The Bulldog Nation is sad to see Russ retire, but we look forward to welcoming Uga X, "Que", as our new mascot. Que will be formally introduced during the Georgia Southern game on November 21, 2015, in Sanford Stadium.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to recognize Uga IX, "Russ," and thank the Seiler family of Savannah, owner of the lineage of "Uga" Bulldog mascots, for their continued support of the program. Go Dawgs!

RECOGNIZING THE NOVEMBER 7
CROSS-STRAIT MEETING

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the historic meeting between Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou and China's President Xi Jinping on November 7. Included below are President Ma's insights on the meeting. Like President Ma, I agree that these are discussions which must continue. But at a time of increasing security concerns and rising tensions in the region, I believe this meeting was an important step toward improved relations and stability in the region.

In my meeting with Mr. Xi, we exchanged views on cross-strait relations, peaceful development and the consolidation of peace, and the status quo of prosperity. You must all be concerned about the atmosphere at the meeting. The meeting took place in a frank and very positive atmosphere. I found Mr. Xi to be

pragmatic, flexible, and candid when discussing the issues. We hope that this spirit will be reflected in the handling of cross-strait relations.

Our discussions focused on several points. The first point is the consolidation of the 1992 Consensus and the maintenance of peace across the Taiwan Strait. I told Mr. Xi that the consensus reached between the two sides in November 1992 was that the two sides of the Taiwan Strait insist on "one China," but differ as to what that means, and each side could express its interpretation verbally. This was the 1992 Consensus of "one China, respective interpretations." The ROC's interpretation does not involve two Chinas; one China, one Taiwan; or Taiwan independence, as the Republic of China Constitution does not allow it. I also emphasized that sustainable peace and prosperity should be the common goal in the development of cross-strait relations. We will continue to consolidate the 1992 Consensus of "one China, respective interpretations" as the basis for relations, and maintain the status quo of peace and prosperity.

The second point is the reduction of hostility and peaceful handling of disputes. We told Mr. Xi that the people of Taiwan are especially concerned about security and dignity. We wanted Mr. Xi and mainland China to understand that we hope all disputes, whether they be political, military, social, cultural, legal, or of any other form, can be peacefully resolved, allowing both sides to experience mutual good will. I made special mention of the frustrations our people have had when participating in NGO activities, as well as the interventions our government has faced when taking part in regional economic integration and other international activities. We hope to see a reduction of hostility in these areas, especially with regard to our NGOs. I told Mr. Xi that these organizations comprise elite members and specialists, who have reacted quite strongly to these issues and the treatment they received. We hope there will be fewer such occurrences. In response, Mr. Xi said he hopes these issues will be appropriately handled case by case.

I also stated that many people of Taiwan are concerned about mainland China's military deployments against Taiwan, including the Zhurihe base with which we are all familiar and where missiles are deployed. Mr. Xi said that these deployments are in principle not targeted at Taiwan.

The third point is the expansion of cross-strait exchanges and mutual benefits. We emphasized that given the fact that Taiwan and mainland China have different social and economic systems, the two sides need sufficient time to engage in deeper exchanges. We also reiterated Taiwan's interest in participating in regional economic integration. The issue of which side joins first and which side later should not arise. Mr. Xi expressed willingness to discuss this issue and welcomed our participation in the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and mainland China's "one belt, one road" initiative.

The fourth point is the establishment of a cross-strait hotline. We believe that a hotline can be set up between the Mainland Affairs Council Minister and the Taiwan Affairs Office Minister, who can then exchange views on important or urgent issues. Mr. Xi stated that this matter could be promptly dealt with.

With regards to cultural and educational exchanges, I also expressed the hope that main-

land China can allow more vocational college graduates to pursue higher education in Taiwan. I noted that our efforts over the past several years have met with limited success. As we from Taiwan know, our polytechnic universities have a shortage of students. I drew attention to the fact that Vietnam, Thailand, India, and Indonesia have been funding graduate studies by university lecturers at polytechnic institutes in Taiwan. We welcome these students. Before I took office, we had about 30,000 students from overseas studying in Taiwan. This year, the figure has increased to above 100,000. We intend to transform Taiwan into an Asia-Pacific center for higher education. I mentioned that mainland China has over a million vocational college graduates. Mr. Xi said he is willing to look into this matter. The vocational college graduates I refer to are like graduates from five-year junior colleges in Taiwan who then enroll in two-year programs at polytechnic colleges.

The fifth and final point is joint cooperation for cross-strait prosperity. I suggested that history has left behind several issues that the two sides cannot resolve overnight. These issues must be handled pragmatically. If we deal rashly with some of the excessively sensitive issues, it will make things worse. The maintenance of cross-strait peace and stability is Taiwan's mainstream view. How cross-strait relations develop in the future will have to take into account the direction of public opinion. In particular, I reiterated that cross-strait relations should be built on the foundation of dignity, respect, sincerity, and good will, for only then can we shorten the psychological gap between the two sides. I especially expressed the hope that the two sides can turn hostility into friendship and seek peace, not war."

RECOGNIZING COL. WYLIE W.
JOHNSON

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Col. Wylie W. Johnson of the U.S. Army Reserve. Wylie, an Army chaplain, served our nation in five conflicts. He continues to serve today as the Pastor of the Springfield Baptist Church in Springfield, Delaware County, where he's been since 1997. Wylie will tonight receive the Freedom Medal from the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association at its annual dinner. It's a well-deserved tribute for a man who has looked after the spiritual needs of our men and women in uniform for decades.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALBANIAN
AMERICAN COMMUNITY
CENTER (AACC)

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Albanian American Community Center (AACC) in Waterbury, Connecticut and the 103rd anniversary of Albania's independence.

Next week, the City of Waterbury will recognize Mr. Xhemal Dani as the 2015 Albanian Mayor of the Day. On that day, the double headed eagle flag will fly over Waterbury City Hall, and we will celebrate the contributions and accomplishments of the Albanian community over the past fifty years. The AACC has been instrumental in bringing our community closer together through religious and non-religious events including festivals, picnics, and charity dinners. Regularly taught Albanian language, culture, and history lessons at the center highlight the rich and vibrant heritage of the Albanian community.

The Albanian-American Community Center's mission began fifty years ago when a small committee organized to advance an environment where religious and social activities could thrive. Through strong work ethic and fundraising efforts, the organization, then-known as the Albanian American Moslem Community, was able to build a new mosque and bring an Imam to serve the City of Waterbury and the surrounding region. In 1969, construction began on the current mosque located on Raymond Street, allowing the Albanian-American Community Center to expand its membership and services to the community.

Under the leadership of President Visar Tasimi, the AACC has strengthened its Scholarship Program, making college more affordable for youth and their families. Since the fund's establishment in 2012, over \$10,000 has been awarded for higher education scholarships. I was pleased to be a part of the scholarship reception this summer and meet the talented recipients.

To the members and leadership of the AACC, thank you for your tireless efforts to encourage friendships and unity among all Albanian-Americans and educate the public about your traditions and culture. Your achievements are a true testament to the positive impact diversity can bring to our community. I am proud to represent you in Congress.

Congratulations to the Board of Directors, members, volunteers, and all who have helped organize the anniversary celebration. I look forward to many more years of your continued success.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN COONEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate longtime anchorman Kevin Cooney of KCCI-TV in Des Moines. After 33 years at KCCI and a lifetime dedicated to journalism, Kevin has decided it's time to put down the notes, turn off the teleprompter and enjoy retirement.

Since 1982, Kevin has been a constant figure in Iowa's living rooms, bringing us the news. During that time, he has covered some of Iowa's most important news stories ranging from the catastrophic floods of 1993 to interviewing President Clinton at the White House on the day of the Oklahoma City bombing. His wide range of knowledge on the issues of the day and his ability to captivate large audiences are second to none.

As an Iowa native Kevin has always had a unique perspective on issues Iowans care

about the most. His passion and genuine love of reporting the news is clear. He has earned the respect of those all across Iowa's media for his professionalism as well as his knack for making those around him better. Kevin is a leader in the truest sense of the word and an ambassador for all Iowans, they have counted on him for breaking news the last 33 years and he has delivered.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Kevin on his retirement as one of the most trusted faces in Iowa news broadcasting. His unwavering support for the state of Iowa and his commitment to providing news stories with integrity is a testament to his character. I am proud to represent him, his family and his fellow colleagues in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Kevin on this incredible milestone and wishing him nothing but the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING MARGE LOZINAK LAWRENCE

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Marge Lozinak Lawrence of Springfield for her service to our country during the conflict in Korea. Marge was a nurse in Korea, joining the cadet nursing program for \$15 a month. She cared for wounded soldiers and did her best to save lives. Marge will be honored tonight at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association Annual Dinner with the 2015 DCVMA Freedom Medal. It's a fine tribute for someone who has served our nation and our warfighters overseas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 18, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 634, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1210) Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3189) Fed Oversight Reform and Modernization Act.

I would have voted "yes" on Roll Call 635, the Motion to Recommit with Instructions for the Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 636, the Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act.

I would have voted "yes" on Roll Call 637, the Reforming CFPB Indirect Auto Financing Guidance Act.

RECOGNIZING JOLIET CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL'S ANNUAL VET- ERAN CEREMONY

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joliet Central High School and its Veterans Ceremony.

On Friday, November 6, 2015, Joliet Central High School hosted its 5th Annual Veterans Ceremony to recognize the sacrifice of alumni, faculty, and community members who have served in the armed forces.

This year, Joliet Central High School honored the following veterans:

Joseph Berman; Charles Muller; Bill Thorns; Ted Micci; Felix Pasteris; Dan Ursitti; Edward Mena; Christo Dragatsis; Jerald Brazeal; Donald Boyer; Gregory E. Warren; Larry Musson; Frank Varman; Larry Evert; and Hank Pillard.

I would like to commend Joliet Central High School for recognizing our veterans and I join the students, faculty, and administrators in thanking them for their service.

IN RECOGNITION OF DONNA AND MICHAEL BARBETTI, RECIPIENTS OF THE 2015 SAM AND JANE CALI STAR AWARD FROM THE BROAD- WAY THEATRE LEAGUE OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donna and Michael Barbetti, recipients of the 2015 Sam and Jane Cali Star Award from the Broadway Theatre League of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The Broadway Theatre of Northeastern Pennsylvania was established in 1959 by the late Benno and Gertrude Levy. The Levy's love for theatre stirred their desire to bring Broadway to Scranton, thus providing access to this unique American art form to the citizens of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Broadway Theatre was blessed with a great board president for many years, the late Sam Cali, whose dedication and support moved the organization into the new millennium.

Each year, the Sam and Jane Cali Star Award is presented to a distinguished community leader who has demonstrated exemplary dedication and service to the arts in northeastern Pennsylvania. Donna and Michael Barbetti are longtime patrons of the arts and were jointly chosen for the award by a committee that wished to recognize their history of support.

Donna and Michael Barbetti are residents of the City of Scranton. Donna is a Registered Dietician with a Master's Degree from Marywood in Food and Nutrition. In addition to her involvement with the Broadway Theatre League, Donna is the President of the Lackawanna County Women's Commission and is a board member of the Pennsylvania Women's Commission. She also is a board member of St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen and the Scranton Area Foundation, and she is on the Advisory

Board for Penn State Worthington Campus. Michael is a Certified Public Accountant and operates his own private practice. He sits on the Board of Directors for Broadway in Scranton. Michael has also served as Chairman of the Board for the ARC of NEPA, The March of Dimes, and as a board member of Allied Services.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Donna and Michael Barbetti. Their selfless devotion to the arts has enriched the lives of many and has had a lasting, positive impact on the quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING MR. RUSTY CARTER

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army veteran Rusty Carter for his service to our country. Rusty is a long-time Delaware County resident who enlisted in the Army in April, 2009. Rusty became a paratrooper with the "Screaming Eagles" of the famed 101st Airborne Division. He deployed to Afghanistan in 2010 and in July of that year came under heavy enemy fire. Rusty was awarded a Purple Heart for his injuries in the battle but just a month later was back in the fight. Rusty was again injured in a Humvee accident in 2011. He'll receive the Freedom Medal from the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association tonight.

IN HONOR OF WINES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S 2015 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Wines Elementary School. For over fifty years, Wines Elementary School has benefited our community through its dedication to the education and development of Ann Arbor's youth. The U.S. Department of Education recognized this commitment by naming the school a 2015 National Blue Ribbon Award recipient.

Founded in 1957, Wines Elementary School's mission is to "create for every student a joyful environment that stimulates lifelong learning and inspires respect for individual differences." The school has actively worked to instill this mission by making community and family participation a cornerstone in the life of each student. Family volunteers organize community events such as the annual Run-a-Thon, in which students run laps around a track to raise money for charity, a movie night, and a country fair, as well as many other fun events. The school also partners with local charities and nursing homes to ensure students are provided opportunities to participate in and give back to their community.

In addition to active community involvement, Wines Elementary School has worked to strengthen all of its students by focusing on

each individual as a unique and capable learner. This has been done through the creation of personalized learning plans which ensures each teacher understands the special needs of their students. The hard work of students, teachers, and parents has resulted in excellent academic achievement. Their standardized tests scores have registered in the top 5% of all Michigan schools in combined measures of student achievement and growth. This earned the school the designation from the Michigan Department of Education as a Reward School and led the department to nominate the school for the National Blue Ribbon Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor the teachers, students and parents of Wines Elementary School. Their multifaceted methods to prepare our children have created a vibrant community which will invigorate Ann Arbor for years to come.

IN HONOR OF MISS RUTHA MAE HARRIS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a legendary singer and activist in the Civil Rights Movement, Miss Rutha Mae Harris. Miss Harris will be celebrating her 75th birthday on Friday, November 27, 2015.

Miss Rutha Harris was born on November 27, 1940 in Albany, Georgia to the late Reverend and Mrs. I.A. Harris. She attended Albany's public schools, graduating from Monroe High School in 1958 and Albany State College, now Albany State University, in 1970. She also studied at Valdosta State University, Dillard University, and Florida A&M University.

In 1961, Miss Harris, who always had a love and talent for singing, joined the Original Freedom Singers. The Freedom Singers traveled more than 50,000 miles singing for the cause of freedom and raising funds for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). During the Albany Movement, Miss Harris was thrown several times into the same jail where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was jailed on multiple occasions.

In 1963, the Freedom Singers were signed to a recording contract with Mercury Records. This was the beginning of Miss Harris's professional career and helped propel her to the national stage. She performed in 46 states and the Virgin Islands, in renowned venues such as Radio City Music Hall in New York City and the Civic Opera House in Chicago, Illinois. The Freedom Singers also performed at the March on Washington in Washington, D.C. in 1963.

In addition to performing with the Freedom Singers, Miss Harris also recorded with the Landmark Gospel Singers, Georgia Mass Choir, and the legendary Whitney Houston. One of the highlights of Miss Harris's professional career was being selected to perform with the Georgia Mass Choir in the film, "The Preacher's Wife," starring Whitney Houston and Denzel Washington. In 2004, Miss Harris recorded her first album, "I'm on the Battlefield."

In 1998, Miss Harris organized the Albany Civil Rights Museum (now Institute) Freedom Singers. This group performs every second

Saturday of the month and travels to other cities. This group, along with the Albany Civil Rights Institute, helps to keep the Albany Movement alive for younger generations to learn of the passion and sacrifices made by their ancestors.

Miss Harris has been widely recognized for her music, her involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, and her continued activism. She received the Martin Luther King Dream Award in 2001 and the Trailblazer Award for Outstanding Work Preserving, Promoting, and Advancing the Tradition of African American Music in 2013, among many other awards and accolades. On February 9, 2010, Miss Harris had the honor of performing at the White House for President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama in a special event, "In Performance at the White House: A Celebration of Music from the Civil Rights Movement."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." The Freedom Singers brought light and love to those on both sides of the Civil Rights Movement. Miss Harris has helped to keep this light and love alive through her continued performances and her efforts to preserve the successes of the Movement for younger generations to enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me and my wife, Vivian, in commending and recognizing Miss Rutha Mae Harris for the inspiring life that she leads. We extend our best wishes to her as she and her family and friends prepare to celebrate her 75th birthday.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOHN COOK

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to John Cook, a Marine from Delaware County, Pennsylvania. John joined the Corps fresh out of high school, and served under Col. Lewis "Chesty" Puller. John landed with the Marines at Incheon and served in "Masacre Valley" during Operation Killer in February 1951. He was discharged in 1952 as a Sergeant, having served his country with honor and distinction. John will be honored with the Freedom Medal tonight at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association Annual Dinner. It's a fitting honor for a man who served his country ably in Korea.

STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WINS THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S SOLAR DECATHLON

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Stevens Institute of Technology's remarkable achievement in winning the Department of Energy's prestigious Solar Decathlon. The competition challenges collegiate teams to spend almost two

years building and designing energy-efficient houses that run on solar power.

This year, the Stevens Institute of Technology team defeated more than a dozen other teams with their design the SURE HOUSE. Thirty students from multiple disciplines competed against teams from five different countries over the course of ten days in ten separate competitions to judge the houses' performance, livability, and affordability. This year the teams also had to prove that their house could power a hybrid, non-electric vehicle.

The SURE HOUSE is a solar powered home that is also able to withstand Hurricane-force winds and flooding. Inspired by the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy it is meant to act as a new housing prototype for shore communities. The SURE HOUSE was ranked highest in several categories and uses almost 90 percent less energy than conventional homes. It can also provide emergency power to surrounding neighborhoods after a storm. The building will be taken back to New Jersey to act as an emergency management and coastal resiliency center along the Jersey shore.

I am confident that Stevens Institute of Technology's outstanding performance will change the future of home building, particularly in vulnerable shore communities, and I congratulate their team on this impressive achievement.

RECOGNIZING ANDREA VOIGHT OF ST. CLOUD

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Andrea "Andy" Voight for her dedicated service as a nurse in the St. Cloud Community.

For Andrea, nursing was much more than a job; it was a family tradition and way of life. Along with her two sisters, Andrea followed in her mother Rita's footsteps to pursue the noble career of nursing.

After graduating from the Miller Hospital Vocational School of Practical Nursing in St. Paul, she returned to St. Cloud to officially begin her career at St. Cloud Hospital where she remained for an impressive 26 years. Andrea says what kept her working for so long was the connections that she is able to make with people.

Andrea embodied what it truly means to care for others, as she says that she "truly appreciated watching her surgical patients make it to discharge."

Forty-six years and five children later, Andrea made the decision to retire. When asked what she hopes to pursue next, Andrea says that she would like to travel and spend more time attending her grandchildren's events.

Andrea, our community is so thankful for all that you have done, and I wish you a happy and peaceful retirement with your family.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,670,014,021,513.75. We've added \$8,043,136,972,600.67 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING ANNA WRIGHT

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Anna M. Wright. Anna has been a longtime champion of our veterans in our community. She was instrumental in the foundation of the Delaware County Veterans Memorial in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania and her support was key to making this tribute to our veterans possible. Mr. Speaker, Anna is being honored this evening with the President's Award at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association Annual Dinner. It's a fitting tribute to Anna and a well-deserved honor for all she's done to express our gratitude to our veterans.

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, November 20th is Transgender Remembrance Day. However, every day we must recognize that transgender men and women are being unjustly discriminated against, bullied, ostracized and even killed because of their sexual identity.

On this day, we remember those who were senselessly murdered, those who are targets because they are different and those who end up homeless when family abandon them.

Transgender men and women wake up each morning being targets of bigotry and hate. So far in 2015, about 29 transgender men and women, primarily in their early 20s, have been murdered. Many more take their own lives because they simply cannot see life getting better or easier.

Organizations like "Project Trans at the Center" in San Diego offer a safe environment to be themselves; they offer resources to help with life situations. It's up to Congress to offer protection from discrimination as a basic human right.

Imagine a world where you wake up every day with the challenge of existing; where it seems the world is against you no matter what you do.

This is their world. Every day. Together we can make a difference and work toward ending discrimination.

Today, let's unify and work together to fix the inequality among transgender persons.

But tomorrow—let us not forget the struggles they face and the support they need to live freely in a world that is so full of intolerance.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROTECT OUR STUDENTS AND TAXPAYERS (POST) ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Protect Our Students and Taxpayers (POST) Act, a bipartisan bill I introduced earlier today with my colleague Congressman WALTER JONES.

If enacted, it would take steps towards eliminating an incentive for for-profit colleges to aggressively recruit and enroll veterans, service members and their families, who have sacrificed for this country and deserve the highest quality of education.

Current law prohibits for-profit colleges and universities from deriving more than 90 percent of their revenue from the U.S. Department of Education's federal student aid programs. The other 10 percent is required to come from sources other than the federal government. However, because of the way the law was written, veterans' and active duty service members' federal student aid does not count towards the 90 percent. Instead, it may be included among a for-profit institution's calculation of its 10 percent non-federal revenue.

As a result, for-profit colleges and universities are left with a powerful incentive to recruit veterans, service members and their families, offering them degrees that are often less valuable than those from not-for-profit institutions.

The POST Act would strengthen the definition of "federal aid" to include G.I. bill funds, Department of Defense Tuition Assistance benefits, and all other federal funding sources.

Furthermore, the POST Act would reinstate a 15 percent minimum on revenue that for-profit colleges must receive from sources other than the federal government. The requirement was lowered from 15 percent to 10 percent in 1998.

The bill also takes steps towards eliminating accounting tricks used by for-profit educational institutions that inflate their declared amount of non-federal funding.

Finally, the POST Act increases the penalty for rule-breakers by causing colleges to lose eligibility to participate in federal student aid programs after one year of noncompliance with the new 85-15 rule. Currently, they do not face penalties until they have been non-compliant for two years.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and help get it passed.

RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM R.
HILTON

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William R. Hilton, a U.S. Army veteran whose service during the Korean War earned him three Purple Hearts and one Oak Leaf Cluster.

Mr. Hilton was born and raised in Chester County, Pennsylvania. One of ten children, he began his military career at the very young age of 16 years old. Upon completion of basic training in 1950, Mr. Hilton was sent to the frontlines of the Korean War.

During his service, Mr. Hilton endured some of the most difficult and horrific conditions of the war. Through three injuries on the frontlines, he continued to fight and act as a leader in battle.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Hilton for his service and I thank him for the extraordinary sacrifices he has made for his country.

HONORING MR. TOM DEBLASS

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Tom DeBlass of New Jersey's Third Congressional District, and to express my sincerest commendation as to all of his accomplishments.

Mr. DeBlass has been named to the New Jersey Martial Arts Hall of Fame as a Grappler. He has won titles such as the Pan American and World Championships. Beyond his personal feats on the mat, Mr. DeBlass has devoted his time to giving back to his community by opening his own Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Academy.

Mr. DeBlass has used his expertise to produce his own world champion students. He has created a legacy of martial arts success in his community and has given young athletes the opportunity to develop and excel.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously proud to have Mr. Tom DeBlass as an involved member of their community. It is my honor to recognize both his personal athletic accomplishments and his lasting contributions to our community before the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING MONSIEUR LOUIS
SICOIT

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Monsieur Louis Sicoit, a man who has dedicated his life to honoring the American soldiers who liberated his village during World War II.

Monsieur Sicoit, a resident of Roynac, France, was just a young boy when his village was at the nexus of the Battle of Montelimar. As a result of witnessing the grueling battle and seeing those American soldiers who risked their lives to protect his village, Monsieur Sicoit built a remarkable museum filled with hundreds of photographs, pieces of memorabilia, weapons, equipment, and testimonials from survivors like him. Sicoit's museum attracts a variety of visitors and also opens its doors to local school children in order to educate them and to help honor the memory of those who helped rid France of the German occupation. Additionally, members of the U.S. Army's 173rd Brigade Support Battalion visited Sicoit's museum and bestowed upon him a Certificate of Appreciation.

Please join me in honoring Monsieur Louis Sicoit for his life-long dedication to paying homage to the brave American soldiers who risked and lost their lives in saving and liberating his village, and for helping to strengthen the bond between our two countries.

RECOGNIZING MR. CHARLES
"BUD" BURNS

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charles "Bud" Burns, a U.S. Navy veteran who served during the Second World War.

A South Philadelphia native, Mr. Burns enlisted in the Navy in 1946. After completing basic training, he was sent to Italy for his first tour of duty on the USS *Compton*. During his time overseas, Mr. Burns patrolled the Mediterranean Sea before returning to the United States and being honorably discharged in 1948.

Mr. Burns received the Good Conduct Medal and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal for his admirable service.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Burns, and I thank him for his service and allegiance to his country.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL
GEORGE DEFILIPPI UPON HIS RE-
TIREMENT

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Colonel George DeFilippi, USAF (Ret) as he prepares to fully retire after 46 years of faithful government service and extraordinary dedication to duty and to the United States of America.

George DeFilippi has had a fine career, including in his most recent role as Head, Congressional Support Branch in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller). I would like to share with you some highlights.

George DeFilippi graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1969. Following graduation, he honorably served his nation on

active duty for the next 30 years spanning many key leadership positions. From 1986 to 1991, George was the Commanding Officer of the 23rd Tactical Air Support Unit out of Davis Monthan AFB, where he was responsible for consolidating the forward air control training for all Air Force and Marine Corps operational units.

His next assignment was to serve as the Commander/Air Liaison Officer with the U.S. Army (XVII Airborne Corps) and Republic of Korea's Third Army, leading a 250-person unit integrating aviation assets into army operations. From 1993 to 1999 George reported to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Technology) and was responsible for the oversight of a \$4 billion tactical fighter and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle programs. He later went on to serve as the Chief of Staff within OUSD (AT&L) continuing to provide oversight for major defense acquisition programs.

Upon completing 30 years of active duty service within the United States Air Force, George retired from active duty but continued to serve his country through the civilian sector. From 1999-2010, he worked within the Cobham Life Support Division as well as Government Relations promoting life support products to the U.S. Armed Forces.

In 2010, George DeFilippi reported to his current assignment as Head, Congressional Support Branch, Navy Appropriations Matters Office where he helped the Department of the Navy achieve their financial and legislative goals. For five years, George DeFilippi has demonstrated exceptional leadership and foresight, engaging Members of the Appropriations Committee and its staff to provide information essential to resourcing the Navy for its role as the world's dominant sea power. In an increasingly difficult budget environment, George DeFilippi provided essential support in shepherding Navy budgets through the appropriations process. George served our nation with integrity, insight and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to George DeFilippi for his extraordinary dedication to duty and steadfast service to this country throughout his distinguished career in the United States Air Force as well as his public service and we wish him and his wife Patricia the very best in his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE GARY CHAM-
BER OF COMMERCE AND THE
8TH ANNUAL LAKESHORE CLAS-
SIC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with heartfelt respect that I recognize the Gary Chamber of Commerce as the organization celebrates the 8th annual Lakeshore Classic basketball tournament. In honor of this outstanding event, the Gary Chamber of Commerce will host a celebratory luncheon in Gary, Indiana, at the Majestic Star Casino on Tuesday November 24, followed by a basketball tournament at West Side Leadership Academy on Friday, November 27 and Saturday, November 28, 2015.

The theme for this year's Lakeshore Classic is "Salute to Youth Sports," bestowing honor on players and coaches who have dedicated their talents to youth sports in Northwest Indiana and made a notable impact on the region's sports programs. Along with the acknowledgment of these individuals, the Gary Chamber of Commerce has chosen an equally commendable speaker for their corporate luncheon. Mr. Lloyd McClendon has an extensive professional career in baseball. He is a former Major League Baseball player who played for the Chicago Cubs, New York Mets, Cincinnati Reds, Pittsburgh Pirates, and Cleveland Indians. Lloyd is also a former manager of the Seattle Mariners and the Pittsburgh Pirates. Originally from Gary, Indiana, Mr. McClendon played for the 1971 Gary team in the Little League World Series and earned the nickname "Legendary Lloyd" after he homered in five consecutive at bats. The 1971 team was the first all African-American team to make it to the final round of the Little League World Series. Lloyd went on to play baseball at Gary Roosevelt High School and Valparaiso University before his professional career. With his many contributions to sports in our region and across the nation, Mr. McClendon has proven to be an extraordinary example for youth involved in any sport, and he is worthy of the highest praise.

At this time, I would like to recognize the schools participating in the Lakeshore Classic basketball tournament. These schools are dedicated to achieving academic excellence and sportsmanship, and they are passionate in their efforts. The participating teams include the Gary West Side Lady Cougars, John Marshall Lady Commandos, Gary Roosevelt Panthers, East Chicago Central Cardinals, Thea Bowman Eagles, Wendell Phillips Wildcats, Gary West Side Cougars, and the Charles A. Tindley Tigers. These teams are comprised of student-athletes who serve as exceptional role models for the youth in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the Gary Chamber of Commerce, the organizers and sponsors of the 8th annual Lakeshore Classic, and the dedicated honorees. Their perseverance, leadership, and commitment to our youth and Northwest Indiana are to be commended.

CONGRATULATING THE HELIAS CRUSADERS FOR THEIR THIRD PLACE FINISH IN THE 2015 CLASS 1 GIRLS GOLF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Helias Crusaders for their third place finish in the 2015 Class 1 Girls Golf State Championship.

This team and their coach should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home third place to their school and community.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Helias Crusaders for a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN CARTER

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank Mr. Kevin Carter, an outstanding citizen and leader from the State of Utah. I thank Mr. Carter for his exemplary service as Director of the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). Mr. Carter served as Director for nearly 12 years. In this capacity, Mr. Carter oversaw the management and administration of approximately 4.4 million acres of land for various beneficiaries, primarily public education. Under Mr. Carter's leadership, SITLA earned over \$1.3 billion and helped the Permanent School Fund grow to over \$2 billion. I thank Mr. Carter for his dedication and his impressive contributions to our State.

EMILY CURRAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Emily Curray for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

As an alumna of the University of Colorado School of Law, Emily has been practicing immigration law since 1996, with a focus on business immigration. Currently, Emily is managing partner of the woman-owned immigration firm Stern & Curray where she helps make the American Dream a reality for clients. Emily's passion for immigration resulted in her current role on the board of the I Have a Dream Foundation—Colorado chapter and serving as past chair of the Colorado Lawyers Committee Immigration Task Force for more than 10 years.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emily Curray for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED GLENN DOUGLAS DENNY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with both profound sadness and deep gratitude that I rise to honor Glenn Douglas Denny, of Milton, Florida who passed away on November 9, 2015.

Glenn was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma to Raymond and Mary Denny. While growing up in Stillwater, Glenn displayed exceptional athletic prowess in baseball and basketball, becoming a star at Stillwater High School, where he graduated from in 1958. His athletic ability was recognized, and he received a scholarship for both basketball and baseball to Baylor

University. After one year at Baylor, he returned to Oklahoma to continue playing the sports he loved at Oklahoma Baptist University. In 1963, he graduated with a degree in mathematics and secondary education.

Upon his graduation, Glenn answered the call of duty, completing the U.S. Navy Officer Candidate School, serving on active duty for seven years with a tour in Vietnam as Commanding Officer of a barracks ship in DaNang Harbor, and serving in the Navy Reserves, retiring at the rank of Commander. Eventually, his naval career would bring him to Florida's First Congressional District, which he would call home for the remainder of his life.

In 1969, Glenn began working as a math teacher and coach at Woodham High School in Pensacola, Florida, and in 1972, he became the basketball coach and math teacher at Pace High School in Pace, Florida, while also earning a Masters of School Administration. Glenn's leadership skills and commitment to education led his selection as the first Community School Director for Santa Rosa County, Assistant Principal, and Principal of Pace High School, as well as Director of High School Education for Santa Rosa County Schools—a position he held until his retirement in 1997.

Glenn's retirement years were filled with quality family time, cross country travel in his motor home, and golf outings with family and friends. Glenn was also a man of faith, and was a long time member of the First Baptist Church of Milton.

To some Glenn Denny will be remembered as a patriot and veteran who served our Nation with honor and distinction, to others he will be remembered as an educator who used his passion for sports and commitment to education to serve the students of Northwest Florida, to his family and friends, Glenn will always be remembered as a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather. His impact on Northwest Florida was immense, and his legacy will live on forever.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I am proud to honor the memory of Glenn Denny. Vicki and I will keep his entire family, especially his wife of 54 years, Joanne; his son, Scott and daughter-in-law Cathy; his son Bryan and daughter-in-law Flavia; his grandchildren, Matthew, Brittany, Michael, Gabriel, Mateus, and Stella; as well as his brother Paul and sister-in-law Kathy in our thoughts and prayers.

EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH REMARKS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Epilepsy affects more than 2.8 million Americans, almost 10,000 of whom reside in my home state of Rhode Island. For the majority of those diagnosed with this condition, there is no known cause. Furthermore, one-third of people living with Epilepsy have seizures that can't be controlled with current treatments.

Richard and Deb Siravo tragically lost their five-year-old son Matty to Epilepsy in 2003. However, they chose to turn their tragedy into

action and founded The Matty Fund. They didn't want other families facing similar challenges to go without help, and they dedicated themselves to raising awareness, providing family resources and improving the lives of children and families living with Epilepsy.

I'm so proud of the work that the Matty Fund does in Rhode Island, and I encourage everyone to take a moment and reflect on what they can do to support Epilepsy awareness, not just during November, but all year long.

DANA RINDERKNECHT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dana Rinderknecht for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Dana began her career with Coors Brewing Company and then became involved with ColoradoGives.org at Community First Foundation where she helped refine the website to make it accessible, affordable and transparent. She helped take the organization from a small Denver-area organization serving 100 nonprofits to a nationally-recognized program used by more than 1,700 organizations across the state. She also helped start Colorado Gives Day to increase philanthropy across the state. Since its inception, Colorado Gives Day—in combination with ColoradoGives—has raised more than \$117 million for Colorado nonprofits.

Dana's energy and sense of humor she brings to her work helps foster a positive and creative environment. Her encouragement of others and her contribution to the nonprofit community has helped impact the lives of many.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dana Rinderknecht for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ORGANIC ACT OF GUAM ELECTION REFORM ACT OF 2015

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to amend the Organic Act of Guam to prohibit salary changes for the Governor of Guam, the Lieutenant Governor of Guam, and Senators of the Guam Legislature until after a general election of the Legislature has passed. My bill also removes the federally mandated five-year residency requirement for individuals to run for governor, lieutenant governor, and senator of the Guam Legislature, and gives the authority to set this requirement to local policymakers and the people of Guam.

The Organic Act of Guam establishes the framework of the Government of Guam and,

among others, provides for qualifications and manner of elections of the Governor of Guam, the Lieutenant Governor of Guam and members of the Guam Legislature. Currently the Organic Act is silent on provisions regarding changes in salary for the Governor, Lt. Governor, or local Guam Legislature and changes can be made and implemented at any time simply by changing local law. Over the past several months, local policymakers and the people of Guam have debated pay increases that were proposed and instituted shortly after last year's general election. While I believe that these issues are up to local policymakers, and ultimately the people of Guam to decide, the Organic Act should provide safeguards regarding salaries for these elected officials that will prevent divisiveness in our community. The bill that I am introducing today would prevent the Governor, Lt. Governor, and Senators from increasing their salaries until after an intervening election of the Legislature has occurred. This is similar to the 27th Amendment to the Constitution that prohibits Members of Congress from increasing their pay until after an intervening election, and it is consistent with a request made by the Guam Legislature for me to introduce an amendment to the Organic Act for this purpose.

Additionally, the bill I am introducing will make it easier for individuals to participate in Guam elections by removing the federally-mandated five-year residency requirement for individuals to run for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Senator, and placing this authority with local Guam law. I believe that we should provide for greater opportunities to participate in government, and that the qualifications for local elected offices should be vested in the laws of Guam. Placing a federal mandate on the qualifications for Guam's Governor, Lt. Governor, and Senators ignores Guam's political maturity and is contrary to the ideals of our representative democracy. These decisions should be made by local policymakers and the people of Guam, not the U.S. Congress. The bill also puts Guam on equal footing with most of America, where state laws, not federal mandates, govern who can run for local elected offices.

This bill is a step towards improving accountability for elected officials on Guam and encourages more participation in our government. The bill is also consistent with public opinion in Guam and the views expressed by the Guam Legislature. I encourage its adoption and urge my colleague to pass this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during roll call vote number 637 on November 18, 2015 due to a previously scheduled appointment.

I would like to reflect that on roll call vote number 637 I would have voted NO.

REMEMBERING THE HISTORIC MEETING BETWEEN TAIWAN AND CHINA PRESIDENTS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as someone, who since 1978 has followed with great interest the tinder box of South East Asia, the recent meeting between Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou and China's President Xi Jinping is an historic event that I did not think I would see in my lifetime.

On November 7 of this year, Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou and China's President Xi Jinping met in Singapore. The two leaders shook hands, gave speeches and discussed cross-Strait relations.

Before Taiwan's President Ma took office in 2008, the relationship between Taiwan and China was severely strained. The conflict over Pacific Island ownership and dispute over many other issues portends problems that could threaten peace in the region.

We greatly appreciate President Ma's initiative and leadership in pursuing this meeting and reducing tension along the Taiwan Strait.

With the recent tragedy in Paris and the increased violence in the Middle East, it is so vital that there is peace along the Taiwan Strait.

We look forward to seeing even greater peace and stability in the region as a result of this historic meeting between these two Presidents and view it as a first step on a long road.

DR. MARGIE BALL-COOK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Margie Ball-Cook for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Born in Beaumont, Texas, Dr. Ball-Cook has dedicated her life to helping others and the health care industry. She graduated as valedictorian of her high school class and went on to receive her Doctorate in Psychology from the University of Denver. Since then, she has helped establish nursing schools in both Colorado and Africa.

Currently, Dr. Ball-Cook heads the Global Health Commission of the National Black Nurses Association and was one of the founding members of Colorado Council of Black Nurses (CCBN). She has mentored and advised hundreds of students interested in medical and health careers toward their career goals, including those with low means who wish to pursue a profession in medicine.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Margie Ball-Cook for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, each November, our nation recognizes the contributions of the First Americans during National Native American Heritage Month. Minnesota is home to eleven proud Ojibwe and Dakota nations, and those nations and their people are a vital part of our state's heritage and our future.

American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians are the source of America's first participatory democracy and the population with the highest rates of service in our nation's armed services. Their cultures and communities have endured despite centuries of violence, injustice, and discrimination. That legacy must never be buried or ignored, but I am committed to working with tribal leaders to move forward in a new era of respect and self-governance throughout Indian Country.

The nation-to-nation relationship between our federal government and the 567 diverse, federally recognized tribal nations across the country has been strengthened tremendously under President Obama. I am proud to have worked with the President and my colleagues in Congress to pass major legislation to better meet our federal trust responsibility, strengthen tribal self-governance, and support Native families, like the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Tribal Law and Order Act, and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

Investing in the health, safety, and education of Native youth, in particular, must be a priority for Congress. Native American youth deserve the same opportunities to shape their futures and succeed as any other child in America. Earlier this month, tribal leaders and Native youth joined President Obama and senior officials from throughout his Administration at the 7th Annual White House Tribal Nations Conference. I was incredibly proud to see young people representing their Native nations and sitting with our President, sharing their priorities and discussing their future. Whether standing against racism in their schools, advocating for opportunities in their communities, or preserving their languages and cultures, the powerful voices and actions of Native youth are helping to build a brighter future for all young people in this country.

Yet even with the progress we have made, tremendous work remains to realize that future. As sovereign nations, tribal governments play an essential role in serving the needs of their tribal members and defending the rights of their Nations. We must follow through on our federal responsibility to Native Americans with greater and more meaningful consultation and with legislative action that supports tribal self-determination, governmental parity, and significant investments throughout Indian Country.

As we honor the heritage and resilience of our Native American brothers and sisters this month, we also commit to working together to build stronger communities and a stronger nation because when Indian Country is strong, America is strong.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS FOR BOY SCOUT TROOP 16

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Boy Scout Troop 16, which will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary on November 28, 2015, at Genetti's Banquet Hall in Dickson City, Pennsylvania. Troop 16 has a long history of upholding the values of the Boy Scouts of America and serving its community with dignity and honor.

Established in 1915, Troop 16 was organized through the efforts of Pennsylvania Representative, John Scheuer. William Longcor served as the initial Scoutmaster of Troop 16. The Troop's first camping trip took place at Lake Ariel during the summer 1915 under the supervision of Scoutmaster Longcor and Assistant Scoutmaster Walter E. Mohr. The troop's inaugural banquet was held in December 1915, and the first Parents' night was in June 1916. The Troop completed its first Council Camp in 1919 at Bidwell's Pond.

Troop 16 has taken numerous camping expeditions over the years, including ones to Mountain Lake, Camp Grieser, Gettysburg, Camp Lackawanna, Washington D.C., Valley Forge, and Goose Pond. In the 1970s, the Troop participated in Scout Expositions at the Watres Armory in Scranton, with Troop 16 winning several awards. In 2008 and 2014, the Troop sent crews to High Adventure at the Florida Sea Base in the Florida Keys. Since its founding, Troop 16 has attended Summer Camp at Goose Pond and has the distinction of counting 238 Eagle Scouts as alumni.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 16 as it celebrates a century of service. These scouts' and leaders' devotion to scouting has enriched the lives of many and has had a lasting, positive impact on their community. I wish the Troop the best as it continues to uphold the traditions of the Boy Scouts of America.

DR. HARRIET HALL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Harriet Hall for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Dr. Hall has made a significant contribution to the community through advocacy, passion and unwavering commitment to people with mental health disorders and their families. She has worked to reduce the stigma of mental illness, to bring the public's attention to urgent matters of mental health, and collaborated with government and business leaders to produce innovative changes for mental health care. Dr. Hall's contributions extend beyond

her work in the mental health field and with her help for some of the neediest portions of the community such as the homeless, indigent and families in turmoil.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Harriet Hall for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

HONORING TED "GUNNER"
OUSLEY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor a man that many in my District know by only one name.

Ted Ousley—or simply "Gunner" as he is known to his many fans—is one of the most popular people in my District and a longtime personality with WIVK radio in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Each weekday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. "Your Cowboy Pal" Gunner entertains listeners with his unique brand of East Tennessee charm, humor, and grace.

He loves his job, and you can tell when listening to his show. He once said that he was "living his dream" by being on the air with WIVK.

In 2003 and 2004, Gunner was voted the Best DJ by Metro Pulse readers and was a finalist for the Marconi Air Personality of the Year.

But Gunner is not just known for his entertainment. He is also a tireless champion of Veterans.

Following the September 11th terror attacks in 2001, Gunner started a segment on his show called "Voices from the Front" where he would connect families over the phone with their loved ones serving in the wars. It was hugely popular and emotional for him and his listeners.

In 2004, he traveled to Iraq, and upon his return led an effort to bring to the United States for treatment an 8-year-old suffering from a severe form of Spina Bifida.

In 2009, Gunner received the first annual Civilian Warrior Award for his work with the 844th Engineer Battalion.

East Tennessee is one of the most patriotic places in this Country. Each year, Gunner helps lead the Veterans Day parade in Knoxville, which is attended by many thousands of people.

In addition to his service to Veterans, Gunner finds the time to run two East Tennessee farms and serve on the Board of Directors of the East Tennessee Alzheimer's Association.

Mr. Speaker, Ted "Gunner" Ousley embodies the Volunteer spirit of East Tennessee.

His humility and dedication to those who serve will forever hold a place in our hearts, and I thank him for his dedication to this Country and wish him success as he continues to entertain us each day.

I also call his work with Veterans to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers in hopes that he will be an inspiration to many more.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 636, I voted 'Nay' when I intended to vote 'Yea'.

SHARON TREFNY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sharon Trefny for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Sharon has spent extensive time as a systems engineer, community organizer and project manager, working with both domestic and international partners. She helped establish the Native American Commission on Urban Affairs, the first of its kind in the country. Sharon also helped to create a Women's Commission in Los Angeles where the first U.S. rape hot-line was set up.

In 2000, Sharon became the First Lady of the Colorado School of Mines. In that position, she interacted with women leaders such as Jehan Sudat (the late Anwar Sadat's wife), Madeline Albright, Wu Yi (Vice Premier of China), Jill Biden, and a UN delegation of women from Afghanistan. Sharon used the insight she gained from these experiences to help connect women's leadership to the women on the School of Mines campus.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sharon Trefny for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

RECOGNIZING CALVIN
FRAUENFELDER AND DUSTY
JOHNSON

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Calvin Frauenfelder and Dusty Johnson for their hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado's Fourth District as interns in my Washington, DC office for the Fall 2015 session of Congress.

The work of this young man and woman has been exemplary and I know they both have bright futures. They served as tour guides, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity to these two and look forward to seeing them build their careers in public service.

Our interns have made plans to continue their work with various organizations in Washington and Colorado. I am certain they will succeed in their new roles and wish them all

the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Calvin Frauenfelder and Dusty Johnson for their service this Fall.

RECOGNIZING CANDY ALCOTT

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to recognize Candy Alcott, an amazing Livermore resident whose acts of kindness are bringing joy to Lake County children devastated by the Valley Fire.

When the Valley Fire destroyed hundreds of homes earlier this year, leaving many families with nothing, Candy jumped into action. She wanted to make sure the children of Lake County were "not forgotten."

Candy drove from Livermore and brought donations. She gave away a few bikes that first day, but there were still many more kids in need. Candy said she would be back, and she has fulfilled that promise over and over again.

Thanks to Candy's tireless efforts, good Samaritans and generous businesses have donated hundreds of bikes. Now called the "Bike Angel," she has even created a group, Bike Angels United, to help continue this outpouring of love and support for the children of Lake County.

Candy said that the generosity people have shown in donating the bikes has been a "miracle." This miracle, though, only happened because of her caring, dedication, and energy.

We want to express our deepest appreciation for Candy's devotion to the children affected by the Valley Fire. What she has done is truly remarkable, and we wish her the very best as she continues her charitable work.

CELEBRATING THE AVON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the Avon Chamber of Commerce's 50th anniversary.

Today, we recognize the Avon Chamber of Commerce for serving as a tireless advocate for our local businesses and an essential resource for their leaders and employees. Over the past 50 years, the chamber has worked hard to create an environment that allows its members to flourish by providing advice, resources, and networking opportunities. Currently, the Avon Chamber of Commerce represents a diverse group of over 340 businesses—both large and small—from every industry.

We here in the State of Connecticut are proud of our highly-skilled workforce, and Avon is an ideal location for companies who want to take advantage of this strength. Organizations like the Avon Chamber of Commerce help businesses continue to grow, so that

Connecticut's economy is vibrant and competitive for years to come. The Farmington Valley owes much to the Avon Chamber, and Connecticut is a better state thanks to their advocacy. I look forward to continuing to work with the chamber as they continue to thrive and welcome more businesses into the region.

Congratulations to Executive Director Lisa Bohman, Board President John Shea, the Board of Directors, staff and members of the Avon Chamber of Commerce on its 50th anniversary.

JOAN SMITH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Joan Smith for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Joan began as a Parent Resource Counselor in 1992, but for the past 25 years has worked for Rocky Mountain Education Center at Red Rocks Community College. During her tenure, she wrote the first National Science Foundation Grants on behalf of the college both of which were funded and began the long and very successful relationship between NSF and Red Rocks Community College.

As director of the OSHA Institute at Red Rocks Community College, she became passionate in seeking solutions to the high fatality rate among oil and gas workers in the field. Joan worked nationally through the industry's STEPS Network to convene a committee of oil and gas professionals from across the country to develop safety training programs for workers. She has also developed relationships between the College and several international partners, including the countries of Jordan and Saudi Arabia. She worked with students, universities, and employers in Jordan to create the first Solar Energy Technician and Occupational Safety and Health Associates Degree programs through the Al Baqa Applied University.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Joan Smith for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHINESE-AMERICAN PLANNING COUNCIL (CPC)

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC), which today celebrates 50 years of service to the Chinese-American, immigrant and low-income communities in New York City.

CPC was founded at the grassroots level and its roots are deep in New York's Chinese American community. In the mid-1960s, as immigration from Asia began steadily growing, CPC was launched and began counseling

families referred by local schools. As the agency developed, it began providing case management services to help recent arrivals adjust to their new homes.

The organization grew rapidly and started providing important educational services to school-age children, including early child care. Shortly thereafter, CPC launched Project Reach, which provided programs for at-risk gang youth in Chinatown. Today that initiative offers services for youth of all backgrounds.

Today, CPC has blossomed into a critical anchor in our community. Over 8,000 people are served every day through more than 50 programs in 33 locations throughout Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. Early childhood services provide a nurturing environment that offers young Chinese New Yorkers an environment to grow and learn.

Workforce development initiatives create economic opportunity by providing our city's residents with training, new skills and employment placement. Through these efforts, over the past year, CPC assisted over 2,500 clients, enrolling more than 525 of them into English as a Second Language classes and training over 200 others in construction, hospitality and luxury retail.

CPC has also become an important safety net for some of our city's seniors. Senior centers in Manhattan and Queens ensure we are caring for and honoring New York's elderly Chinese. The centers' meals provide a popular reason for seniors to come together, while food is brought to those who are homebound. Programs focused on music, art and entertainment help keep seniors culturally and intellectually stimulated and engaged.

Mr. Speaker, since its founding five decades ago, the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC) has become an invaluable and critical force for good in our city. Today, it helps some of our most vulnerable neighbors, while strengthening our community overall and making New York a better place to live. I would ask my colleagues to join me in saluting CPC as it celebrates half a century of service to New York's Chinese community and to our entire city.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS LEGAL SUPPORT ACT OF 2015

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Veterans Legal Support Act of 2015, a bill to allow the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide certification and support to law school clinical programs that provide pro bono legal and support services to veterans, including, among other things, assistance with disability claims and appeals and foreclosures. There are already at least 22 law schools that have clinics devoted to veterans' legal needs, including the William & Mary Law School Veterans Benefits Clinic, which serves as a national model for this idea, as the law clinic was the first in the nation to receive a "best practice" certification from the VA. There are many other law schools, such as the University of the District of Columbia's David A. Clarke School of Law, that are interested in starting their own VA-certified clinics.

More than 600,000 veterans are waiting for their disability claims to be processed by the VA. With the assistance of lawyers and law professors, clinical programs provide free legal resources to assist veterans with processing their claims. My bill would merely build on what some law schools have begun to do for the last several years. More needs to be done to sustain and increase these programs.

Just as we honored our veterans on Veterans Day, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, a concrete measure that would assist our veterans, who have repeatedly put their lives on the line for this country, in their daily lives.

DAN ARVIZU

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dan Arvizu for his exceptional work as Director of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colorado.

Dr. Arvizu is retiring this year, but his legacy of leadership and innovation will endure for many, many years to come. I want to take this moment to say thank you for outstanding stewardship of our nation's premier energy efficiency and renewable energy laboratory.

In addition to his role at NREL, Dr. Arvizu is Chairman of the National Science Board, which is the governing board of the National Science Foundation. He will continue his role as Chairman of the National Science Board and he will also become a visiting professor at Stanford University.

On behalf of everyone at NREL, the people of the state of Colorado, and the United States of America, let me say thank you for a job well done. We wish you all the best on the next steps of your journey.

HONORING MARY V. KING

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend and colleague, Mary V. King. Mary was a lifelong resident of Oakland, California, and dedicated her life to public service. She passed away earlier this week.

During her three-terms as the first African American County Supervisor for Alameda County, she authored many policies with lasting impact on the Bay Area, including a values-based budgeting process still in use by the county, and the King Plan for land-use, which is now considered a model for smart-growth. She also served as the chair of several community-based and regional committees, including the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC's) Bay Bridge Design Task Force. Among her many roles in public service, she worked tirelessly as the General Manager of the Alameda Contra Costa Transit District, often called the

AC Transit District, carrying the agency through tough economic times.

Mary and I became friends when we served together on MTC and worked together on the Caldecott Tunnel, which connects Alameda and Contra Costa counties and contributes to the economic development of our region. She used her considerable expertise in government to develop and advocate for efficient transportation systems, smart land-use planning, housing, and other policies that have helped to create opportunities throughout the Bay Area. She also worked to improve economic conditions and social services for lower income residents, promoting health and education, and youth violence prevention programs. The Mary V. King Health Education Center is named in her honor as part of the Eastmont Wellness Center in Oakland. She also founded the Alameda County "Women's Hall of Fame Awards," which recognizes the accomplishments of other women and has recognized more than 200 honorees.

Among her many accolades, Mary has been awarded the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials, the "Allen E. Broussard Memorial Award for Outstanding Humanitarianism" by the Alameda County Bar Association, the "George Moscone Memorial Award" by the American Society of Public Administration, the Community Leaders, Recognition Award by the Black Elected Officials and Faith Based Leaders of the East Bay, and was named the "Legislator of the Year" in 1992 by the Arc of the United States.

Mary is survived by her mother Victoria King, two daughters Kimberly and Vikki King, and two grandchildren. She leaves an indelible legacy on the East Bay, and will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate the extraordinary life of Mary King, and I send my sincere and deepest condolences to her family, friends, and loved ones.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JUDGE TALMADGE LITTLEJOHN

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Chancery Court Judge Talmadge Littlejohn of New Albany, Mississippi who joined his Heavenly Father on Monday, October 26, 2015.

Judge Littlejohn had a long, distinguished career as a public servant, including service as a district attorney, state legislator, and chancery court judge.

He served in our state house from 1960 to 1964 and the state senate from 1964 to 1968. In 2010 he was honored by the Mississippi Bar for his 50 years of practicing law. He was in his fourth term as a judge in the First Chancery Court District of Mississippi, which includes Alcorn, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tishomingo, and Union counties.

Judge Littlejohn always conducted himself as a selfless public servant dedicated to fulfilling any task that was assigned to him.

He was an active member of First Baptist Church of New Albany, where he faithfully

served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher. Judge Littlejohn was a man of family, faith, and a servant of God.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Julia Gray Littlejohn; his daughters, Lisa Gault (Phil) of Huntsville, Alabama and Christy Adair (Avery) of New Albany; his son, Bradley Littlejohn (Morgan) also of New Albany; his six grandchildren, Phillip Gault, Justin Gault, Katie Allison Gault, Julianne Littlejohn, Gray Littlejohn, and Ivy Littlejohn; one sister, Ivy Jean Weeden (John) of New Harmony; one aunt, Elaine Pannell of New Albany; and many nieces and nephews.

My thoughts and prayers are with Judge Littlejohn's family and friends during this difficult time.

THANK YOU MIKE PODEGRACZ
FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE
CITY OF HESPERIA

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, over my time representing the citizens of California's Eighth Congressional District, I have been able to spend time with and learn from some of the best community leaders America has to offer.

Today I rise to speak about Mike Podgracz, the City Manager of the City of Hesperia.

Mike was first appointed City Manager in 2005. During his time as City Manager, he has overseen the completion of the Ranchero Underpass and Interchange projects, the G Avenue Lead Track and the completion of the Hesperia's Civic Plaza Complex. Being fiscally conservative, Mike led the organization through the recession without staff layoffs while maintaining a balanced general fund budget. Having spent the first half of his career in the private sector, Mike understands the impact of superior customer service on the community, and places a special value on this trait across all city departments. Hesperia is a city known for its excellent customer service, and Mike has made this possible through all he has been able to accomplish.

I wish Mike the best in all that is yet to come. He has left a huge imprint on the City of Hesperia and I'm proud to have worked with him.

MARYANN PROCTOR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize MaryAnn Proctor for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

Whether it was tutoring second graders through the Bring up Grades (BUGS) program or volunteering at the Tennyson Center for abused children, MaryAnn lived to help others. On a daily basis, she oversaw the complex operations of Propp Realty leading the staff

and making business connections, not only from tenant to tenant, but with every person she met. She insisted on quality work, respect among coworkers, and encouraged potential leaders to conduct business fairly and professionally.

She served as a board member for the West Chamber, President-elect for Lakewood Kiwanis, a volunteer at ARC, The Action Center and Lakewood High School Key Club. Additionally, she served on several City of Lakewood committees and belonged to the West Colfax Business District. MaryAnn unexpectedly passed away at the end of 2014, leaving behind a tremendous legacy.

Thank you for recognizing MaryAnn Proctor with the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Her leadership and service to the community will forever be remembered.

MARKING 20 YEARS SINCE THE
SIGNING OF THE DAYTON
AGREEMENT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, November 21 will mark the 20th anniversary of the Dayton Agreement, which ended the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina from 1992 to 1995.

As a member and later Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I remember those events vividly—many Bosnians and Serbs testified before the Helsinki Commission in the 1990s (including victims of human rights abuses and human rights defenders) and some have since played leading roles as elected officials. In 1991, Frank Wolf and I visited Vukovar in neighboring Croatia while it was still under siege. With a group of other Helsinki Commissioners and Members of Congress, I urged a decisive international response under U.S. leadership from the very beginning of the war. In 1995 we spearheaded a movement to lift the arms embargo on Bosnia, so that it would not present such an inviting target to Serb militias. Sadly the embargo was lifted too late for the Bosniaks in Srebrenica.

Just last month I met with a group of young Bosniaks belonging to Voices of the Bosnian Genocide. It was so moving to meet with these young people—many of them were from Srebrenica—and to learn how many of them had taken up work or study that sought to bring some good out of the horrors of 1995. Many studied human rights law, or conflict resolution, or medicine.

Their lives were shaped not only by Srebrenica but also by Dayton, which brought an end to the killing. Yet as public officials we have a responsibility to remember that robust action earlier in the conflict could have saved many more lives and produced better prospects for the future.

Twenty years later, this Dayton anniversary offers the opportunity to assess what has been achieved in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The agreement should rightly be remembered for restoring a peace that has held to this day, and for ensuring the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Dayton gave the country time to begin to heal from a horrific conflict infamous for ethnic

cleansing and atrocities against innocent civilians, including the genocide at Srebrenica—which we remembered with the unanimous passage of House Resolution 310 this past July—as well as the shelling of Sarajevo and other urban centers, and the rape and death camps established by Serb militant forces at the beginning of their aggression. In this small country, over two million were displaced by the conflict, more than 100,000 were killed, and tens of thousands were raped or tortured. Scars made by crimes of this scale still remain.

Dayton was a central part of an effort that helped the international community transition from a world divided between East and West in order to meeting post-Cold War challenges, including the extreme and violent nationalism and its inherent hatred for others which manifested itself elsewhere in the Balkans and Europe. For the first time since World War II, an international tribunal was established to hold persons accountable for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. Determining the fate of missing persons, using new technology such as satellite photography to locate mass graves and DNA testing to identify remains, became a priority. The NATO Alliance, previously confined to the borders of its member states, expanded its security role to operate “out of area,” first to restore peace and then to keep it. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe also evolved to include significant field operations and new mandates ranging from election observation to police training. These developments remain relevant today.

As we commemorate the accomplishments of Dayton, Mr. Speaker, we also must remember that the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina must live in its wake. It is my hope that, at the 30th anniversary of the end of the conflict, Bosnia will have made more progress and we will have more to celebrate.

STATEMENT PUBLISHED BY MRS.
MARYAM RAJAVI OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RESISTANCE OF IRAN, CONDEMNING THE RECENT TERROR ATTACKS IN PARIS

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following statement published in the Washington Times on November 18, 2015, by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, condemning the recent terror attacks in Paris.

On behalf of the Iranian people and the Iranian Resistance for freedom and democracy, I strongly condemn the terrorist attacks and massacre of defenseless people in Paris on November 13, 2015.

I extend my condolences to the Republic's President and government as well as the French people for the loss of life in these attacks, which are true examples of crime against humanity.

I express my heartfelt sympathies to the victims' families. Today, our hearts bleed for the French nation. The people of Iran deeply feel the bitterness of these crimes.

In these difficult moments, the Iranian people can empathize with the French people

and share their grief, because for the past 37 years they have been suffering under the religious and terrorist dictatorship, which is the Godfather of ISIS.

Today, humanity's conscience is in shock and disbelief, wondering how such crimes can be committed in the name of God and under the banner of religion.

Fundamentalism has nothing to do with Islam, whether it is under the pretext of Shiite extremism and religious tyranny or *velayat-e faqih* (absolute clerical rule) or under the pretext of Sunni extremism and Daesh (ISIS).

Such inhumane crimes have no connection to Islam, and are evils that represent enmity to peace and humanity everywhere.

Crimes committed by the religious fascism ruling Iran, including 120,000 political executions, hostage-taking and export of terrorism, have nothing to do with Islam or the Iranian people.

For this reason, I urge all Muslims to strongly condemn the crimes committed in Paris and to not allow the conduct of these ruthless terrorists to occur in the name of Islam and Muslims.

I also call on them to stand firm against such extremism, which violates the true teachings of Islam.

The Assad regime in Syria and its prime sponsor the mullahs ruling Iran are the chief sociopolitical enablers of ISIS, with their slaughter of 300,000 innocent people and displacing of more than half of the Syrian population.

As long as this dictatorship rules in Damascus with the backing of the religious fascism ruling Iran, ISIS will continue to thrive and extend its scourge of death from the Middle East to Europe.

At the same time, Iran's ruling mullahs, who are the primary beneficiaries of these crimes, are brazenly blaming the French government for the attacks.

According to what they published in a news agency affiliated with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), their demand is for France to abandon its firm policy against the Assad dictatorship in light of the November 13th massacre and to instead "coordinate its efforts with the Islamic countries," namely the mullahs in Tehran.

In such circumstances, it has become increasingly vital for France to insist on the removal of Bashar Assad from power and to adopt a more decisive policy in resolving the Syrian crisis.

Experience has shown that firmness is the most effective and the only principled and correct approach to confronting terrorists.

Once again, I extend my most sincere sympathies to the people of France and pray for a speedy recover for the injured.

THE PRESIDENT'S VOW: ENDING VETERANS HOMELESSNESS BY 2015

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Reps. CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY), SANFORD BISHOP, Jr. (D-GA) and I rise within the 100 days remaining to reaffirm our support for the President's Vow to End Veterans Homelessness by December 2015. We also reaffirm the First Lady and Dr. Biden's White House Joining Forces Initiative aimed at supporting military families, and last year's Mayor's Challenge to End Homelessness among veterans.

We also want to recognize the legendary Hon. CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY), who was the

first to call attention to our nation's greatest failing 'the plight of our homeless veterans' in 1992, on the heels of the seminal report 'Heroes Today, Homeless Tomorrow.' That report revealed that 250,000 men, or one of every three single homeless men sleeping on the streets or in shelters, on any given night, were veterans and 40% were Black. Now, 23 years later the Hons. CHARLES RANGEL, SANFORD BISHOP, Jr. and I convened the forum, "President's Vow" to review the past 20 year's accomplishments and shortfalls against the backdrop of Rep. RANGEL's 'Yesterday's Military Heroes Ought Not be Today's Homeless,' where high unemployment, homelessness, and health concerns prevailed.

The forum successfully blended the President's Vow and First Lady's Mayor's Challenge, along with Congressional efforts, while placing Black and women veterans homelessness within the framework of the national dialogue, or discussion. Furthermore, the forum succeeded in impressing upon lawmakers and the audience a fundamental truth that 'race and gender matter' in our comprehension of 21st century at-risk and homeless veterans. It argued the persuasive case of urban veterans' homelessness, joblessness and incarceration, the link between homelessness, poverty and hunger among veterans across America, disparities in health outcomes for male and female veterans, the triple disadvantages for African American female veterans, and the need for more case management services, transitional housing and permanent affordable housing development. It also exposed the need for better case worker-to-veteran ratios.

We began the forum with a musical prelude performed by David Bratton, known as the DC Lou Rawls, and the traditional military presenting of colors. In addition, Dr. James Averhart, Past President of the Montford Point Marine Association led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Chaplain Michael McCoy, Associate Director of VA Chaplains offered the invocation and benediction.

Congressman CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY) then introduced Col. Nicole Malachowski, USAF, Iraq Combat Pilot and Executive Director of the White House Joining Forces Initiative, who brought greetings from First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden as a morale booster. Accompanying greetings came from Hon. SANFORD BISHOP, Jr. (D-GA) and Hon. CORRINE BROWN's (D-FL), who also introduced the new VA UnderSecretary for Health Dr. David Shulkin, MD for keynote remarks. Afterward, Congressman SANFORD BISHOP, Jr. (D-GA) introduced our impressive panelist and Executive Director Ron Armstead as moderator for the panel discussion to come. The panel discussion consisted of the following members:

Col. Eugene Scott, USA, Ret., President of Chicago Defender Charities, started by focusing on the Chicago Defenders more than 100-year history in defense of the black community. However, he was more outspoken about veterans' homelessness and in highlighting veterans' hunger in Chicago. Georgia State Legislator Calvin Symre, who is also Past President, National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) stated that NBCSL is formulating and leading discussions around homeless veterans policies with the White House and other agencies. The intention is to mobilize everyone at the state, city and local levels for support, because the struggle

doesn't end, and there is always the need for more people to be involved. Nan Roman, President/CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), presented statistics on veterans homelessness and discussed the overrepresentation of African Americans, who represent only 10% of the general veterans' population, adding that, although numbers appear to be declining, there still is a discrepancy. Gregory Scott, President/CEO, New Directions for Veterans (ND), talked about his father (a troubled Korean war veteran) who died all too soon and about his family knowing nothing about PTSD, thus establishing the importance of the connection between veterans and their families, in identifying with not only the homeless, but with all struggling veterans.

Baylee Crone, President/CEO, National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) described the coalition, its services and its efforts to end chronic homelessness as well as the importance of listening to its founders, such as Ralph Cooper, M.Ed., a co-founder of NCHV, and others. Steve Peck, President/CEO of U.S. VETS, suggested the need for a long-range plan beyond December 2015. Carlyre Holder, President, National Association for Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCCJ), spoke about the criminal justice system and the need for reform—noting that President Barack Obama is the first president ever to visit a federal prison—in addition to expressing the NABCCJ's support of social justice and veterans' courts. Ed Jennings, Southeast Regional Director, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), indicated that the vast majority of the First Lady's Mayor's Challenge and state and other official signers come from the southeast region of HUD. The latest numbers being 555, out of 854 nationally from Region 4.

The question-and-answer period was a lively exchange between attendees and panel members reflecting motivation, stimulated thinking and enthusiasm; Anthony Love, VA Senior Advisor and Director of Community Engagement remained throughout in order to answer questions and address concerns regarding homelessness.

The Veterans Braintrust Homeless Forum was significant for its timing—we were 100 days away from the December 2015 deadline for ending veterans homelessness. And we are embracing the First Lady's and Dr. Biden's agenda, along with fulfilling our central mission of advocating nationally and articulating clearly the message that "Blacks are continually overrepresented among the homeless veterans population, despite being only 10% of the general veterans population." The key question—why are Black veterans disproportionately represented among the homeless—remains essentially unanswered, as does the issue of why "women veterans are now the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, particularly single women with children." Therefore, more needs to be done before the national media declares victory, and the 'political and public will' goes away.

Although, we are watching the national homeless statistics in order to anticipate and formulate the next steps, we envisioned the forum as part of an "all hands on deck" effort and opportunity for enhancing homeless veterans policy, programs, services with outside-the-box problem solving. Yet, we realized that representatives from the DC area alone were absent for some unknown reason. Further, despite not requesting the Friday morning forum

be recorded, we did manage to audio record the Saturday homeless advocates and providers roundtable discussion as per Dr. William Lawson's advising the need to write, publish and develop articles, policy papers, and talking points, as a way of contributing to the literature. Furthermore, charter member Tom Harris suggested that the recording be sent to members across the country, so it can be shared locally for people to hear and discuss.

Most importantly, the forum feedback was highly favorable, with comments like 'the forum was on point,' 'I learned so much,' 'great job,' 'incredible,' 'awesome,' 'phenomenal,' 'I thought it was great for Congressional representatives to focus on homeless veterans,' 'impressed with panel and listened intensely,' 'made good contacts,' 'well organized,' and 'it was a one stop shop of information giving a broad perspective (from coast to coast), or a snap shot of black veterans status, or circumstantial situation, particularly for those of us on limited budgets and fixed incomes.' The general consensus was that we are making progress, but we still have work to do. Consequently, two tangible forum outcomes under serious consideration are crafting a position/policy paper and creating a new Veterans Braintrust Homeless Committee consisting of advocates and providers from the community or grassroots level. Also under consideration is planning a follow-up session with the strong support of the National Alliance to End Homelessness and others to include either a Capitol Hill Briefing and/or high level meetings with Congresswoman BROWN (D-FL) and other leaders in Congress.

The Annual Gala Reception and Awards Ceremony was, as usual, 'a standing room only' affair in the Cannon House Office's Room 334 (Veterans Hearing Room). With a musical showcase performed by DC's Lou Rawls, followed by Congresswoman BROWN's welcome and introduction of Veterans Affairs personnel, committee staffers and Don Phillips, Minority Staff Director, House Committee on Veterans Affairs (HCVA), in addition to our very special guest Martin Luther King III, and Pastor Leon Bryant, Sr., who blessed the food. In his role as Master of Ceremonies Executive Director Ron Armstead presented a series of gifts to Congresswoman BROWN: first, a mug inscribed 'The Best Man for the Job is a Woman'; second, a civil war book titled "Firebrand of Liberty—The Story of Two Black Regiments that Changed the Course of the Civil War" by Stephen V. Ash, and third, a special Josiah Walls citation on behalf of Dr. Frank Smith, Jr., Founder of the African American Civil War Memorial Museum, located in Washington, DC.

Deserving 2015 Awardees were: Andrae Bailey, Abraham House-El, Gregory Crawford, Dr. Sharon Elliott-Bynum, Duery Felton, Jr., Irvin Goodwin, Clifton Lewis, Bruce Marks, Ivan Mason, Wendy McClinton, Col. Eugene Scott, USA, Ret., Gregory Scott, M. William Sermons, Darryl Vincent, Cordell Walker, Martha Watts, Alshi Williams, Larry Williams, A Step Forward, Inc., Catholic Charities St. Leo Campus for Veterans, Central Florida Commission on Homelessness, Final Salute, Inc., Greater Chicago Food Depository, Healing with CAARE, Inc., Joseph's Place, National Alliance to End Homelessness, National Association of American Veterans, National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America, Samuel L.

Felton Community Center, The Jericho Project, United States Veteran Initiative (U.S. VETs), United Way of King County, United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley, Veterans on the Rise, Michigan Veterans Foundation, Stand Down House, Film: 'Sweet Georgia Brown' and Historical Group: National World War II Museum Traveling Exhibit: 'Fight for the Right to Fight: The African American Experience in World War II.'

The official awards ceremony concluded with the playing of Ray Charles' rendition of "America the Beautiful," coupled with times are "Changin'" by Brass Construction to underscore the important historical changes taking place: from the Civil War to Josiah Walls, Florida's Black Congressman of Reconstruction, to the 50th Anniversary of the successful passage of the Voting Rights Act, to Rep. BROWN's election to Congress after the passage of 127 years, and her present status as Ranking Democratic member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. But, the recent Florida GOP redistricting plot and TVOne Roland Martin interview where she states "if you are not at the table, you are on the menu," is cause to rethink the earlier musical premise.

Special acknowledgements go to Ralph Cooper, Mel King, Pamela King, Eva Kerr, South End Technology Center at Tent City, Julius Hayes, Allene Carter, Dr. Fari Nzinga, Todd Williams, Ronald Jackson, Sr., Wendy McClinton, Larry Williams, Gregory Crawford, Jas Boothe, Irvin Goodwin, Dr. Virginia Brown, Dr. William Lawson, Prof. Joel Beeson, Prof. Chad Williams, Ernest Washington, Jr., Henry 'Tabu' Taylor, Bonnie Perry, T. Michael Sullivan, Anthony Hawkins and Shantrel Brown; Congressional staffers Ronnie Simmons, Rontel Batie, Stephanie Anim-Yankah, Nick Martinelli, Chester Glover, Reginald McGill, Jackie Gray, Carla Wiley, Jonathan Halpern, William 'Bill' Golembiewski, Hannah Kim, and Reba Raffaelli.

Finally, we close by quoting decorated Korean War veteran Rep. CHARLES B. RANGEL (D-NY)—"No American let alone African American who serves this great nation deserves to be left on the streets of America homeless or alone. And shouldn't disproportionate African American homeless veterans be a 21st century civil rights issue?"

JILL FELLMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Jill Fellman for receiving the West Chamber's 2015 Celebrate Women Award. This award celebrates local women leaders with drive, perseverance and service to their community.

As a Jefferson County native, Jill attended Jefferson County schools and then became an educator in the Jefferson County public school system for 30 years. After retiring from her education career, Jill served as an elected member of the Jefferson County School Board of Education from November 2011 to November 2015.

Currently, she is a member of the Jefferson County Schools Foundation Board, the Audit Committee, the Wheat Ridge Education Alli-

ance, and the City of Arvada Coordinating Council. She also serves as Secretary for the Arvada Community Food Bank board and is Vice Chair for the Sooper Credit Union Foundation board. With her endless amount of energy and passion for first rate public education, she also serves on the board of Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth and is an Edgewater Collective community partner.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jill Fellman for receiving the 2015 Celebrate Women Award. Thank you for your leadership and service to the community.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION WEEK AND RECOGNIZING NORTH CAROLINA'S EFFORTS TO ADVANCE GLOBAL
EDUCATION

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week, November 16–20, marks the 16th annual International Education Week (IEW), which is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education that serves as an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange programs worldwide and encourages participation in them. This important week is observed all across the United States and in more than 100 countries overseas. I want to recognize some of the efforts within my home state of North Carolina to provide a global education experience to as many students as possible.

The theme of this year's IEW is 'International Education: Advancing Access for All,' which is critical because opportunities to learn global competency skills are not currently accessible to all students.

I want to call attention to the North Carolina State Board of Education, whose members help to guide NC's global education efforts via their 2013 report, 'Preparing Students for the World: Final Report of the State Board of Education's Task Force on Global Education.' As noted in this report, "Students in North Carolina are no longer preparing for future jobs in North Carolina. They are preparing to work and compete in a global workplace. The impact of cultural sensitivities and the capability to collaborate in a diverse international setting . . . cannot be understated. Our State Board of Education in North Carolina is rightfully focusing on these skill areas, as they will become even bigger factors and differentiators in determining the future success of our students."

At least in part due to this statewide focus on global education, there are an increasing number of course offerings and enrollment in language studies and an increasing number of K–12 dual language/immersion programs in North Carolina. Today, there are at least 15 world languages being taught in our state's K–12 schools, including Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Hindi. And there are over 100 programs—a number that is rapidly growing—utilizing several different learning models being implemented in school districts across the state. The State Board of Education recently

designated Piedmont Middle School as the first Global-Ready School under the Board's Global Education Strategic Plan and 15 schools have indicated an intent to apply for this designation in the upcoming year.

I am also proud that North Carolina is home to the nation's first statewide Global Schools Network that serves to connect teachers, school administrators, non-profit and for-profit partners with a deep commitment to international education and 21st century student preparation. The Network's founding partner is VIF International Education, based in my district, an organization that supports the efforts of more than 180 Global Schools in 22 districts across the state. These schools are a mix of urban, rural, low-wealth, affluent, magnet and traditional sites and each provides school-wide access to global learning experiences via international exchange programs, global competence training for all teachers, a school-wide global curriculum, virtual classroom to classroom partnerships, and/or dual-language/immersion programs. VIF's mission of 'Global Education for All' serves as a rallying cry for the schools statewide.

Our North Carolina universities further help to advance global competencies at the undergraduate and graduate level. For example, the statewide University of North Carolina (UNC) system hosts a myriad of global education programs, including World View, which provide daily proof of the positive impact of international exchange. And the Center for International Understanding (CIU), a program of UNC General Administration, is working to develop a first-in-the-nation strategy for North Carolina's business, government, nonprofits and educational institutions to strategically engage globally.

Many of our state's universities are also using IEW as an opportunity to inform students about how to participate in Study Abroad programs or other opportunities for international learning that encourage the exchange of knowledge and understanding and promote enlightened and responsible global citizenship. The UNC system-to-system student exchange partners currently total 32 campuses in seven countries, and individual UNC campuses offer numerous additional opportunities for students to study or intern overseas. In the 2012–2013 academic year, more than 6,300 UNC system students participated in a study abroad program, studying in 89 known countries, and the percentage of students participating expected to increase in future years. Further, there are global certificate programs at 6 UNC campuses and most campuses are developing strategies to enhance such offerings. There are also countless faculty-to-faculty interactions that occur across nations in a variety of ways, primarily through research.

During this International Education Week, I rise to celebrate these and the many other North Carolina-based organizations that are working day-in and day-out to ensure that our state continues to benefit from the efforts of international education. Further, I re-state my commitment to working this week, and every week, to help ensure that global competence is the norm rather than the exception for every student.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
BRIGADIER GENERAL FRED-
ERICK R. PAYNE, JR., USMC,
RET. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
PASSING

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Brigadier General Frederick "Fritz" R. Payne, Jr., a Marine Corps American Fighter Ace, recipient of a Congressional Gold Medal, dedicated husband to the late Dorothy Payne, and proud father and grandfather.

General Payne led a life centered on service, commitment, and sacrifice. In May, I was honored to present General Payne with the Congressional Gold Medal for his dedicated service to the Marine Corps and status as the oldest living American Fighter Ace, an elite group of pilots having downed at least five enemy aircraft in battle. Time after time, General Payne risked his life to preserve the freedom of all Americans, and time after time, General Payne was successful in his mission. For this, I am grateful.

In 1935, after graduating from the University of Arizona, Fritz joined the Marine Corps in an effort to pursue his dream of becoming a pilot. Not only did he achieve this dream, but after encountering fierce conflict over Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands Area, he also achieved status among the most elite fighter pilots, American Fighter Aces. Our freedom endures because of the bravery of men and women like General Payne.

General Payne is survived by his two sons, Robert Payne and Dewitt Payne; daughter Elizabeth Ann Payne; and three grandchildren. His wife, Dorothy Payne, predeceased him in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, General Payne's selfless service and vast military achievements in pursuit of the preservation of our American freedoms and ideals deserves acknowledgement. On behalf of all Americans, and in particular the residents of California's 36th Congressional District, I would like to honor the life and military service of Brigadier General Frederick "Fritz" R. Payne, Jr.

HONORING THE JOHNSON-PHELPS
VFW POST #5220 ON THEIR 80TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Johnson-Phelps Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #5220 of Oak Lawn, Illinois for celebrating 80 years of existing as a community organization. I appreciate all the hard work the Johnson-Phelps VFW has done to assist our nation's brave foreign war veterans.

The VFW's mission is, "To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts; to serve our veterans, the military and our communities; [and] to advocate on behalf of all veterans." The Johnson-Phelps VFW Post has excelled at fulfilling this mission by honoring the sacrifices of our vet-

erans and admirably serving our community. The Johnson-Phelps Post was formed in 1945 by a group of veterans returning from the Second World War. The Post was named for Mr. Raymond Johnson and Mr. Leslie Phelps, both killed in action during WWII. The newly formed Post chose Mr. Johnson's and Mr. Phelps' names from a hat that included the names of all 23 men from the Oak Lawn area that were killed in the war. The current Post building was completed in 1951, built in large part by the Post's own members. The Johnson-Phelps Post later merged with six other posts in the Southwest Chicagoland area, the oldest of which was chartered in 1935.

The Post's achievement and dedication to service is made possible today by Commander Richard Bukowski, Sr. Vice Commander Thomas Krone, and Jr. Vice Commander Bryant Reed. Their dedication to serving the community is shown through programs such as the well-known Voice of Democracy & Patriots Pen Scholarship Competitions. They also provide for the public by hosting and sponsoring important local events in our community.

Throughout the United States, and in the Third District of Illinois, the VFW has worked tirelessly to improve our communities and support the needs of our war veterans. The VFW has repeatedly advocated for better medical care and benefits for veterans, and has been instrumental in the funding efforts for our nation's war memorials.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Johnson-Phelps VFW Post #5220 of Oak Lawn, Illinois for this significant achievement. The members of the VFW have done a tremendous job serving and representing the third district of Illinois and I wish them all the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of November as National Family Caregivers Month, and to honor family caregivers in the Ninth Congressional District of Massachusetts and across the country.

Every day, millions of Americans dedicate their time, energy, and resources to care for their loved ones. In the last year, it is estimated that over 43 million adults—parents, children, siblings, spouses, friends, and neighbors—have provided unpaid care to an adult or child in need.

The tireless and selfless devotion of caregivers allows millions of Americans to live a full—and fulfilling—life. Many caregivers balance full-time careers and the many daily demands of modern life. Family caregivers provide an estimated \$450 billion in care and immeasurable support every year. Studies show that this not only provides health benefits and increases the life expectancy of those cared for, but can also increase the life expectancy for the caregivers by an average of nine months. As the number of older Americans rises, so too, will the number of caregivers. It is critical that legislators, regulators, and the general public unite to provide them with the resources—and respect—they deserve.

As we take time this month to acknowledge the exceptional efforts of caregivers, I would like to make special note of the many organizations that advocate, develop best practice programs, and provide resources for millions of caregivers around the nation, including many in Massachusetts. The ARC of Greater Plymouth County, Friends Or Relatives With Autism and Related Disabilities (FORWARD), Alzheimer's Family Support Center of Cape Cod, Coastline Elderly, and Old Colony Elder Services are but a few of the instrumental organizations assisting caregivers in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker, during National Family Caregivers Month, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedication of caregivers and to pledge our continued support for their selfless efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN
RHONDA R. POWELL

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Captain Rhonda Powell, a daughter of Metro Atlanta, for her extraordinary service to the nation while serving in the United States Army for the past 23 years.

Since the beginning of her career, Captain Powell exhibited a steadfast commitment and dedication to serving her country. A graduate of the University of Memphis and George Washington University, Captain Powell has been stationed in Fort Gillem, Fort Bragg, and is currently a congressional legislative liaison to the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve for the U.S. Department of Defense at the Pentagon.

While deployed in Doha, Qatar from 2006–2007, Captain Powell served as the detachment commander of the 312th Adjutant General Company in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom to Camp As Sayliyah. Captain Powell exhibited strong operational planning and intelligence analysis, and assumed duties as the officer in charge (OIC) of the Quick Reaction Force element on Camp As Sayliyah. She not only supported the health, welfare, morale, and development of her assigned soldiers, but also led her team in rapid responses to threats and other developments on or near the base.

In her current role interfacing with the U.S. Congress, Captain Powell used her experience in military relations to establish the Soldiers and Leaders United Through Engagements (SALUTE) Program. This unique and timely initiative helps connect Members of Congress with issues and experiences facing American soldiers.

Upon her retirement next month, Captain Powell plans to return to her roots in Atlanta, where her parents still reside near Howell Mill Road, and to begin a new chapter of her life. Mr. Speaker, I join others in congratulating and thanking Captain Powell, for her service, perseverance, hard work, and contributions to our nation. I and the other residents of Georgia's 5th Congressional District are happy and proud to welcome her home.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BILLYE BROWN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the first registered nurse elected to the U.S. Congress, I would like to take a moment to congratulate a remarkable woman for her remarkable devotion to the nursing community, as well as wish her a safe and happy 90th birthday.

Dr. Billye Brown graduated from nursing school at Arkansas Baptist Hospital in Little Rock and received a Bachelor's degree in Nursing Education from the University of Texas' Medical Branch School of Nursing at Galveston, Texas. She earned her Master's degree in Nursing Education from St. Louis University and a Doctor of Education degree from Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Internationally recognized as a leader in education and administration, Dr. Billye J. Brown has been at the forefront of nursing for more than 30 years through her achievements as both professor and dean at the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing, and as a prominent leader in nursing's most distinguished professional organizations.

In 2013, the American Nurses Credentialing Center, a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association, awarded Billye its prestigious President's Award to honor her lifetime contributions to the nursing profession, including her support of original research in the 1980s that led to the establishment of ANCC's Magnet Recognition Program.

During her years at The University of Texas at Austin, Billye was dean and professor of the School of Nursing for 17 years. Billye's visionary approach to teaching and administration led to her appointment as the LaQuinta Motor Inns Centennial Professor in 1983 and her induction into the Hall of Fame at the University of Texas' School of Nursing at Galveston in 1992.

Her numerous professional awards and honors include being named Nurse of the Year by the Texas Nurses' Association; her selection as one of the Most Influential Women in Education by the Austin American Statesman; and resolutions passed by the State of Texas Senate and House of Representatives acknowledging her contributions to nursing.

At the national and international level, Billye is widely respected for her service as past president of both the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). As chairman of the fundraising task force for STTI, Billye led a successful multi-year campaign that produced more than \$7 million in planned gifts. She was honored by the AACN with the Sister Bernadette Armiger Award.

In 1999, STTI selected Billye for the Mary Tolle Wright Award for Excellence in Leadership and announced the formation of the Billye Brown Society to pay homage to her dedication to planned giving efforts that contribute to the advancement of scholarly nursing. She was recognized with the Nell J. Watts Lifetime Achievement in Nursing Award at the 2007 STTI Biennial Convention. Billye was recognized as the 2010 American Academy of Nursing Living Legend, and in 2011 she was selected to receive the prestigious National

League for Nursing President's Award for an Enduring Legacy in Nursing Education.

Mr. Speaker, the only list more longer and more plentiful than the list of Billye's professional achievements is the list of people whose lives she has touched. She dedicated her life to nursing because it is a profession on the forefront of patient care, human interaction, and practiced compassion. Her work is selfless, but she is so humble, she would never even say that. Her life is for others, but today is for her. May the RECORD recognize Dr. Billye Brown's historic career and milestone birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
DIABETES MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Diabetes Month, during which we reflect on the importance of understanding, treating, and caring for this serious condition.

The diabetes endemic is a present and growing threat in today's society. Close to 30 million Americans have diabetes, while another 86 million are pre-diabetic. According to the Centers for Disease Control, if current trends continue, 1 in 3 Americans will have diabetes by 2050.

The economic burden of diabetes, pre-diabetes and the largely preventable chronic diseases resulting from diabetes costs the United States approximately \$245 billion. Many of these costs are associated with diabetes-related complications, including kidney failure, blindness, and amputations. Diabetes is also a major cause of heart disease and stroke.

To address this problem, it is critical that we make investments in diabetes prevention, care, and treatment. In my district and throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, citizens are benefiting from the exceptional efforts of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the New England Office of the American Diabetes Association. These organizations are dedicated to raising awareness, providing support to patients and families, and funding promising diabetes research. Both of these organizations are also extraordinary advocates on behalf of families and individuals living with diabetes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring November as National Diabetes Month and in supporting diabetes research and care.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 117
VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit a Veterans Day speech written and delivered by Mr. Don Hirst to American Legion Post 117 on Veterans Day 2015.

[From American Legion Post 117 Veterans Day Ceremony, Nov. 11, 2015]

AMERICAN LEGION POST 117 VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

(By Don Hirst)

Good morning and thank you all for coming to Post 117's Veterans Day Event.

Let me start off by asking for a show of hands, to include family members and surviving spouses. Please leave them up until I'm finished with a few brief questions, if you can.

How many of you are veterans of World War II? Of the Korean War? The Cold War? Vietnam? Grenada, Panama or similar actions? Desert Storm? Afghanistan? Iraq? Deployments to support any of those action or similar ones I've overlooked?

Now look around the room. Quite a lot of hands, right? Okay, please put them down and relax while I make a few observations and comments. Everyone who raised a hand is a veteran, or a significant part of a veteran's family. Some of you may even be both.

Today is Veterans Day, and that's why we're gathered here and in tens of thousands of other places across the nation and the world: to mark an important date in America's history. For us, it's a day that represents a whole lot more than big sales at the supermarket, shopping mall or car dealerships. Yeah, we all may take part in some of that, but we know to the core of our being that it's intended to honor those who served the nation and served it well. You're all part of that select group. Many of you bear scars, physical or otherwise, as a result of your service.

So what does it mean to be a veteran? In the minds of a lot of folks, a veteran is someone whose service is over, tour of duty ended. That's a long way from the truth. Especially in today's world, with all of the dangers and challenges that seem to be popping up everywhere. Kind of like a grim version of Whack-a-Mole.

As I sat writing this a couple of days ago, the news reports once again trumpeted more acts of violence against the nation's citizens. Two American trainers—civilians but working to help train police in Jordan, a U.S. ally headed by a courageous leader with extensive military experience and service—were gunned down in an apparent blue-on-blue attack. They were murdered by a Jordanian officer. This wasn't the first such case we've encountered in recent years and in different locations. It won't be the last, either. You can take that to the bank.

The list of incidents, both overseas and, increasingly, at home here in the United States, grows with each flip of the calendar page. Unless you're totally ignorant, oblivious or intellectually challenged—or a combination of all three—you sense with a growing feeling of foreboding that we are at war.

So what do we do about it?

This isn't the venue to get into partisan political discussions, something we're not supposed to do at official events since we're part of the American Legion and thus have nonprofit, tax-exempt status. We Legion members each have our own political beliefs, but we're a nonpartisan organization. We do our politicking informally, over a beer, and at the local precinct ballot box each election day. As an aside, I hope all of you voted on November 3 and repeat that civic duty in the coming year. Voting is a precious right. That right was earned by blood sacrifices of the past, and is kept alive by the sacrifices that will come.

But let's get back to the "what do we do about it?" part. The situation is serious—and getting worse. The historian in me says that we arguably haven't been in such perilous

times since the 1930s. Back then we saw economic chaos, the rise of Nazi Germany, Japanese militarism and a continued avoidance of taking action by the great democracies of the world.

Finally, of course, we did act, winning a stunning, hard fought victory against the forces of pure evil. We won, and that's a fact beyond dispute. But we paid a much higher price for that victory by not acting sooner, when decisive action may well have saved millions from a horrible fate.

I think we're at such a crossroads today. Even a casual glance at the headlines shows how dangerous it is right now. And it's likely to get worse before it's over.

As the horizon grows darker, I believe it's a good idea to take stock of where we are, what assets we have and what we can do about it. I'm not advocating forming a militia of disgruntled, angry veterans or vigilante groups. But I am strongly urging us as free citizens, neighbors in the vibrant, close-knit communities of the Northern Neck, to stand up and stand together so that we are better prepared for what may come.

It's like insurance. You might not need it right this second, but when you do, it's too late to buy a policy after the flood waters reach the second floor of your home or the volunteer fire department battles the blaze threatening your house.

Now let me ask for one more show of hands. Are there any members of our local government, our sheriff's department or other similar agencies here today? Please raise your hands. And if there aren't any hands up, I expect that more than one person here today is acquainted with such folks and can help spread the word.

You saw a few minutes ago how many people raised their hands when I asked about prior military service. They're veterans. They're experienced. They've been in the tough places, done the tough jobs. And they're an extremely valuable asset that shouldn't be overlooked in future times of need. Those times could be months or years from now—or maybe never come. Or they could be this afternoon or tomorrow. Think Pearl Harbor. And 9-11.

So I urge the local authorities to reach out, to connect with us, the veterans who are your friends and neighbors. We're here, we're near—and we're something you should put in the emergency kit. This T-shirt I ordered [holds up T-shirt in front of the audience] came in the mail just in time for Veterans Day. Rather than wear it under my shirt, I wanted to use it to reinforce my point. I don't know if you all can see it, but the inscription on the back says,

VETERAN.

Don't Think Because My Time Has

Ended

That I Won't Suit Up Again &

Protect This Flag

Against Terrorism

On American Soil

I'd add protecting against other threats to the terrorism part, because that's what we can do, too.

At the dawn of the birth of our nation, a group of poorly armed patriots stood together at Concord Bridge to fight for their freedom against the might of the British army. Standing strong against great odds also is the theme of the epic poem "Horatius at the Bridge" written by English poet Thomas Babington Macaulay in 1842. The poem tells of a time in ancient Rome when the citizens wanted self-rule against kings and tried to hold the city against the king's attacking army. One bridge across the Tiber River had to be demolished by the defenders for the city to hold, but they needed time to do it.

Horatius, a valiant Roman soldier, and two stalwart comrades-in-arms, stood shoulder-to-shoulder at that bridge. They bought the time needed. It was Winston Churchill's favorite poem, and a few short verses tell you why:

Then out spake brave Horatius,
the Captain at the Gate.

"To every man upon this earth

Death cometh soon or late.

And how can man die better

Than facing fearful odds

For the ashes of his fathers

And the temples of his gods.

So saddle up, fellow veterans. We've got a job to do. See you at the bridge!

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, since its designation in 1990, this month seeks to honor the influence of Native Americans in shaping American history, acknowledging the injustices wrought upon the many tribes, and looking forward so we can strive to forge a better future together for all.

As we prepare to celebrate the 394th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth, Massachusetts, so too should we pay tribute to the significant contributions of the original Americans. As some of the earliest inhabitants of this beautiful land, the Native Americans paved the way for future settlements by mastering skilled ways of farming, discovering natural medicines, and hunting.

Their contributions to our shared history continued through the centuries; they have served in the Armed Forces during times of war and peace. Most notably, we celebrate the service of the Navajo Code Talkers during World War II, who ensured that our vital communications could not be decrypted by the enemy. Native Americans are woven into the nation's fabric, having taught us new sports and craft such as lacrosse, canoeing, kayaking and snowshoeing, as well as provided our shared culture with celebrated athletes, musicians, dancers, politicians, and many more.

Mr. Speaker, Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity for us to reflect on the significant accomplishments of our proud Native American tribes—including the Wampanoag and Aquinnah tribes in my district. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing all Native American tribes across the nation for their indomitable spirit and remarkable achievements.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and observe November 25th as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Last week, I introduced House Resolution 519, which supports the ideals and goals of this day. November 25th is the start of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, which ends on December 10th—Human Rights Day.

Time and time again, in periods of conflict and natural disaster, the most unspeakable cruelties are inflicted on the bodies of women and children. Whether in the house or in conflict zones; whether by soldiers or by intimate partners—violence against women and girls is an ongoing cycle and a global threat which must be eliminated.

Violence against women and girls are public health issues and egregious violations of human rights. The facts are startling. Worldwide, 35 percent of women have experienced either intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. 120 million girls worldwide have experienced sexual assault at some point in their lives. And according to the World Health Organization, women aged 15–44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence, than cancer, car accidents, war, and malaria.

In addition, women and girls are disproportionately impacted by natural disasters. Displacement settings exacerbate preexisting inequalities, render women and girls even more vulnerable, and create greater barriers in their ability to benefit from relief, recovery, and long-term reconstruction and development efforts. As we saw during the humanitarian crises in the Philippines, Nepal, Haiti, and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, women and children are the most vulnerable populations to sexual violence and human trafficking.

Violence upon, and trafficking of, women are the worst kind of atrocities. As we have seen in Rwanda and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the Liberian refugee camps, sexual violence was rampant. Today, ISIL forces are systematically raping and violating Yezidi women and girls. In addition, since the beginning of Syria's conflict, reports have revealed patterns of gender-based violence perpetrated by both regime and opposition forces. Sadly, rapes in the Syrian refugee camps have also been reported.

This violence must stop. Once and for all.

Mr. Speaker, whether on the battlefield or in post-disaster areas, in the household or workplace; whether in refugee camps or sexual enslavement camps—violence against women and children must be recognized and stopped around the world.

Even though we recognize November 25th as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, we should fight every day to end this violence against human rights.

THE INSTALLATION OF BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a lifelong Episcopalian, I am filled with pride over the installation of Bishop Michael Curry, the first African-American leader of the U.S. Episcopal Church. His historic election comes at a challenging time in history for both the nation and the church. In response, Bishop Curry has valiantly pledged to take up “the serious work of racial reconciliation” in his new role and to strive for the “beloved community,” envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. At a time when all denominations are struggling to rebuild declining memberships, his focus on both evangelism and inclusion marks an exciting new chapter for our church. I am supremely confident that he is up to both tasks.

I recently had the honor of welcoming to my Capitol Hill office the Right Rev. Peter Eaton, who is the new bishop coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese in Southeast Florida. He met with me and our own House of Representatives chaplain, my friend, the Rev. Patrick J. Conroy. Bishop Eaton comes to us from St. John's Cathedral in Denver, Colorado, and I look forward to helping him get to know our church community.

May God shine His light on both Bishop Curry and Bishop Eaton as they embrace their new vocations.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J.
CALLAGHAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Mr. William “Bill” Callaghan. He passed away November 16, 2015, at the Veterans Affairs (VA) Central Iowa Health Care System. Bill was the son of John Francis “Jack” Callaghan. Jack was the founding Director of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and longtime servant to the people of Iowa and Nebraska in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Bill carried on this tradition of service to our nation entering the Army in 1970 serving in the 4th Infantry Division in the Vietnam War. After serving in Vietnam, Bill came back to Omaha to earn his Juris Doctor (JD) at Creighton Law School. He served as a Prosecuting Attorney in Webster City and Ottumwa, IA before becoming the Law Instructor at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in 1984, where he served for 26 years impacting the lives of thousands of officers through his Iowa Criminal Code and United States Code classes.

Bill married Jeanette Wagner in 1985 and they were blessed with a son, John R. Callaghan. Both Jeanette and John R. survive him. Jeanette is a retired music teacher and John, following in his father's footsteps, is a Sergeant in the 4th Infantry Division of the United States Army, stationed at Ft. Carson, CO.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Mr. William J. Callaghan and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent great Iowans like Bill in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in honoring his memory.